

Calvary Courier

May 2016

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor

I share the following stories with you. They are from *Stories for the Journey* by William R. White. I offer them without comment to allow you to draw your own lessons.

Soap and Religion (based on a Jewish tale)

As the Teacher was speaking to a group of children, a soap-maker attempted to embarrass him. "How can you claim that religion is good and valid when there is so much suffering and evil in the world? What good are all the books and sermons that your religion has produced.

The Teacher motioned to a small child to move through the crowd. "This is Eric," the Teacher said. "He is three. He is also dirty. I ask you, what good is soap when Eric and hundreds of children like him are dirty? How can you pretend that soap is effective?"

"What a foolish argument," the soap-maker protested. "If soap is to be effective it must be used."

"Precisely," the Teacher answered. "If the teachings of our master are to be effective, they must be used."

A Most Precious Possession

A young convert approached a pastor with a question. "How can the holy God forgive a sinner? Isn't God repulsed with all the hatred and jealousy that fills people?"

The pastor looked warmly at his young, enthusiastic friend and said, "You are the third generation in a family of master furniture makers. Tell me, if a fine table that your grandfather made was scratched would you throw it away?"

"Of course not," the young man exclaimed. "A scratch can hardly alter the character of a fine piece of furniture."

"And," the pastor continued, "if you nicked a well-crafted oak rocker, would you toss it away?"

"Throw it away?" the young man exclaimed. "Even with a few scratches quality furniture is sturdy and valuable."

"You have spoken like a true craftsman," the pastor replied. "You share that spirit with our creator God who continues to find his human creation precious and valuable in spite of their obvious flaws."

In Christ,
Pastor Knowles

MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday to:

- 2 – Kirk Ketelsen
- 4 – Arlene Cooke
- 6 – Teri Griebel
- 9 – David Peterson, Ardeth Lindell
- 18 – Brittani Blair
- 23 – Dereck Chase
- 27 – Pat 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 & Valorie Daniel (1974)
- 28 – Randy & Ann Bowser (1973)
- 28 – Dale & Joan Winter (1955)



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.



Pictured is one of Jim and Linda Johansen's baby



goats. Look on the bulletin board by the Upper Room to view the article on Jim and Linda and how their goat's milk is now making Montchevré cheese out of Wisconsin.

Jim went from being raised on a dairy farm, to selling lawn seed, to back on a

dairy farm. Jim has made the full circle. Linda however was a city girl. She teaches piano full-time and helps Jim with the goats. That's quite a combination – but it works!



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

♥ Thank you sincerely for your thoughtful kindness at a time when it was deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged. May Peace be with you always until we meet again.

---- Siri Lea Markuson

• I am writing to express my joy and thanksgiving for your faithfulness and generosity in sharing gifts for Mission Support in 2015. Calvary Lutheran Church is one of 99 congregations of our Northern Illinois Synod that met or exceeded 100% of your 2015 Mission Support Statement of Intent.

---- Serving Christ Together,
Bishop Gary M. Wollersheim, NIS



WELCA - MEETING ON TUESDAY, MAY 3:
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. Hostess: Connie Langston
- ❖ **Unit Meeting** will be on May 17 15 at 7:00 p.m. Program: Deborah Circle; Hostess: Rachel Circle
- ❖ **HAPPY HOOKERS** will meet on May 25 at 9:30 am.



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).

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE is May 12th. Please be sure all items are into the church office.

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, please either call the church office (309 762-5423) or email: secretary@calvarymoline.org with your address.



We offer our sympathies and prayers to the family and friends of Betty Ellis. Betty passed away on Wednesday, March 30.

Funeral services were held at Sullivan Ellis Home, East Moline with a desert following at Calvary. May you find comfort in our Lord, Jesus Christ.



Church Women United Theme: "Finding Grace at the Table"

Our May Friendship Day celebration will be on Friday, May 6, at Elim Covenant Church, 5201 18th Avenue, Moline. The celebration will begin with registration at 9:30 a.m. Refreshments will be served. Reservations are not needed. Just come – all are welcome!!

Also, it is at May Friendship Day that money collected for Fellowship of the Least Coin is presented. The flyer will be posted on the bulletin board by the Upper Room for a list of additional items, if you would like to donate.

Calvary Basement Sale – Over Till Next Year

Thank You.....Thank You.....
Thank You..... I cannot thank you enough for jumping in and taking time out of your busy schedule to help make this years' Basement Sale a success!

To everyone who donated items, helped haul items, helped with set-up, worked in the garage, worked in the kitchen, worked during the sale, made items for the bake sale and marked – ALL THOSE ITEMS – THANK YOU! This job is no easy task and there were many days of tiring and strenuous work, but with everyone helping – the task got done. If I have skipped over anyone, please know that your presence was noticed.

Again, thank you for all your help. You are awesome! Sharon Hough

Synod Assembly In-Kind Offering

On behalf of Domestic Violence Victims and their children, we are empowering survivors to build a safe and peaceful future with freedom and dignity.

In an effort to provide for those needs, the Northern Illinois Synod Social Ministry Committee will be collecting items at the Synod Assembly, June 19 & 20. How can we help? We are collecting the following items:

Shower gel/Soap; Toothbrush and Toothpaste; Brush and Comb; Full size Shampoo and Conditioner; razor for shaving (womens) Floss; Face Wash; One package Diapers (choose one size newborn through 5); Deodorant; Baby Wipes and Diaper Rash Cream

Members of Calvary who would like to donate items for the assembly in-kind offering may place them in the box in the narthex. Pastor Knowles will deliver them to the assembly.



Church Women United GARDEN SALE May 9 thru May 15 at HY-VEE

This Year, you can shop at Silvis Hy-Vee or both locations of Hy-Vee in Moline (Ave of the Cities or 7th Street). Good on all purchases in the outdoor garden center (plants, flowers, mulch, shrubs, trees, lawn ornaments, etc.) 10% of your purchase benefits: Christian Friendliness, WINNIES Place, Local Food Pantries and Women's Prison Ministries. **NOTE:** A flyer will be **REQUIRED** with purchase. There will be a few flyers on the table in the Narthex and in the church office. IF you forget to bring this flyer with you, please ASK for another at the outdoor checkout counter before making your purchases.



FOR OUR GRADUATES....

A hidden graduation message

A college class was graduating on a hot and humid day. As the graduates walked across the platform and received their diplomas from the president, he smiled, shook their hands and said loudly, "Congratulations!" Then, in a much lower voice, one that was firm and could be heard only by the graduates, he would say, "Keep moving."

He was only trying to keep the line moving across the stage, but his words were good advice for a lifetime: "Keep moving." After every achievement – growing up, graduation, marriage, job promotion, even retirement – the best advice is, "Keep moving." Don't stop. Don't stagnate. There is more to life than you have found thus far. This is not the end; it is only the beginning. Keep moving.

—SourceBook of Wit & Wisdom

'Just keep swimming ...'



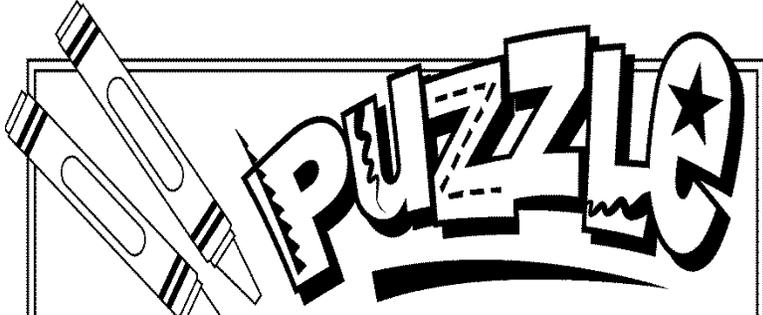
In Athens, the apostle Paul responded to the people's worship of "an unknown god" by declaring, "[God] is not far from any one of us. 'For in him we live and move and have our being'"

(Acts 17:23, 27-28, NIV).

Author Diana Butler Bass echoes that sentiment: "If the water is invisible to the fish, is God, as the One in whom we swim, also invisible?" (*Grounded: Finding God in the World*, HarperOne).

I, in turn, am reminded of Dory, the blue tang fish in *Finding Nemo*. Feeling overwhelmed and alone, she chants to herself, "Just keep swimming, just keep swimming." When we feel alone and can't see God, it's not that he doesn't exist or can't be known; rather, he surrounds us so closely that sometimes we miss the fact. God is the Living Water in which we swim. Sometimes we need to just keep swimming until we become aware of that again.

—Heidi Mann

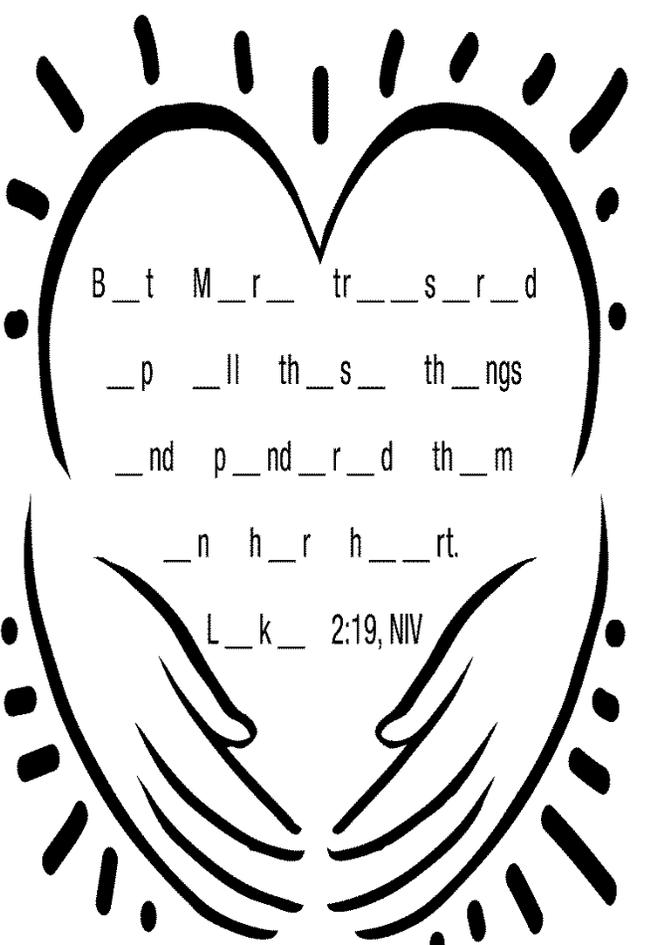


A mother's love

At age 12, Jesus was left behind in Jerusalem. His parents later found him in the temple, discussing Scripture. What did Mary, Jesus' mother, think about this?

Directions: Fill in the blanks with the correct vowels to complete the Bible verse.

A E I O U Y



B _ t M _ r _ tr _ _ s _ r _ d
 _ p _ ll th _ s _ th _ ngs
 _ nd p _ nd _ r _ d th _ m
 _ n h _ r h _ _ rt.
 L _ k _ 2:19, NIV

Answer: But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. Luke 2:19, NIV