

Calvary Courier

June and July 2017

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor

¹If you've gotten anything at all out of following Christ, if his love has made any difference in your life, if being in a community of the Spirit means anything to you, if you have a heart, if you care - ²then do me a favor: Agree with each other, love each other, be deep-spirited friends. ³Don't push your way to the front; don't sweet-talk your way to the top. Put yourself aside, and help others get ahead. ⁴Don't be obsessed with getting your own advantage. Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand. ⁵Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself. (Philippians 2:1-5, from The Message version)

Bishop Clements cites this passage in his annual report to the Synod Assembly and shared it with us at a recent Synod Council meeting. As I read the passage I was struck by the simplicity of the message as it is interpreted by Eugene Peterson, the translator for this particular version of the Bible.

Paul is imploring the people of the Philippian church to act as if their faith mattered. If Christ's love and sacrifice for you has made any difference at all in your life, Paul seems to be pleading, then please let it be reflected in your actions. Care for each other, don't fight amongst yourselves, don't strive for power over others. Rather, remember the life of Christ, who became a human in order to serve others for the sake of God, leading to his suffering and death.

In the Bishop's Report, Bishop Clements offers this passage in the context of this statement:

God planted your congregation, in your community, in your location, perhaps a very long time ago, for ministry today. Claim your mission. God is at work. The church is alive. The world needs the message that we have to share.

The challenge from the Bishop is for us to understand that God has placed Calvary Lutheran Church here for a reason. Perhaps that reason was to provide Christian education for a thriving Sunday School 75 or 90 years ago. Perhaps that reason was to share the Word of God through word and deed to an economically suffering community in the 80's. Perhaps that purpose was to offer consolation to grieving families over the past 15 years. Since our founding nearly 100 years ago God has continually had a reason for us to be here.

And, the Bishop wants us to understand, God continues to have a reason for us to be here now. Our ministry is not just a thing of the past, but mission for the "here and now."

As Paul urges us to remember through the Philippians passage above, the love of Christ must make a difference in our lives. We have been gifted by God's Spirit and called to share those gifts with the people of our congregation, our community, and the world. We can, in the name of Christ, make a difference in the lives of our neighbors both here and abroad.

In Christ,
Pastor Knowles



Pastor Knowles will be on vacation from June 19 through July 5th. If you need Pastoral care, please contact the church office.

PLEASE be sure to read the letter from Pastor Knowles on Page 2.

Dear Members of Calvary,

As you may be aware, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is experiencing a critical shortage of pastors. Currently within our synod we have nearly 30 pastoral vacancies and fewer than five seminarians coming to us this spring. At the same time many of our congregations have experienced a significant decline in worship attendance and offerings and can no longer afford a full-time pastor. The bottom line – the norm of one congregation with one (or more) pastors is probably not sustainable into the future. Other solutions to providing pastoral leadership in congregations are needed.

One solution is to close or merge congregations. Personally, I believe that solution is undesirable and should only be used when all other options have been tried. Another solution is for congregations to share a pastor. This option provides the possibility of continuing the mission and ministry of both congregations in the places where God planted them, opening up new avenues of ministry in both places, while sharing the expenses of pastoral leadership.

Calvary Lutheran Church of Moline has the opportunity to share in such a ministry.

St. James, Rock Island is in a situation where they cannot afford a full-time pastor but want to faithfully continue their mission and ministry in the place where God planted them in the 1950's. They have approached me and our congregation council to explore the possibility of a shared ministry. At a specially called meeting on May 23, our council unanimously agreed to continue the conversation leading toward shared pastoral ministry with St. James.

Recognizing that in the space available to me in this letter I can't address every issue, let me share with you some of the things I think you ought to know about this proposed model of ministry for us:

- I believe this is an opportunity for us to further God's mission in the Quad Cities. Helping our sister congregation is, perhaps, one reason God has planted us in this place for this time. As one council member said (and I concur), "It's the right thing to do."
- We begin this process as an interim, not a permanent, ministry.
- In my experience with "multiple-point" ministries (I served two congregations in my first call) neither congregation will have a

part-time pastor, but both congregations will be served full-time. I will be available to both congregations for pastoral care, administrative meetings, funerals, worship, etc.

- New ministry opportunities will surface for both congregations as members would be welcome to participate in activities of either congregation.
- It may be necessary for us to adjust our Sunday morning worship time. Because so much pastoral ministry takes place following worship, it is important to schedule services in order to allow sufficient time for pastoral interaction following worship at the earlier service and still have time for me to travel to the later service. I'm proposing Calvary's worship be shifted one half hour later and St. James' worship be moved 15 minutes earlier (8:30 am).
- I would no longer be able to teach the Sunday morning Sunday School class. However, I anticipate adding a class during a weekday evening – probably at St. James. This would not affect the Monday morning class.
- St. James will contribute a proportional amount toward my compensation. At this point I am recommending the proportion be based on the previous year's average worship attendance. Based on that proposal St. James would be contributing \$3,000 to \$4,000 per month to Calvary for my compensation. I am not expecting or asking for any additional compensation than what is currently budgeted.
- All details still need to be worked out. This is the beginning of a conversation. Nothing will be final until it is approved by our congregation. A special congregational meeting will be called for final approval.
- The goal, if we agree to participate in this ministry, is to begin August 1.

I'm sure you will have questions or concerns. Please feel free to speak with me or any council member.

In Christ's Service,
Pastor Knowles

JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday to:

- 1 – Stan Heed, Brad Gross
- 2 – Kathryn Beardsley
- 4 – Vinh Pham
- 7 – Nathan Faith
- 8 – Wyatt Bunch
- 9 – David McClanahan
 - Jerry Cornelius
- 14 – Jenna Ketelsen
- 17 – Jim Johansen, Aaron Ohrn
- 18 – Olivia Bunch
- 30 – Michelle Youngworth



Happy Anniversary to:

- 4 – Mark & Marena Jackson (1994)
- 6 – Rudy & Sandy Ohrn (1959)
 - Vinh & Cindy Pham (1976)
- 8 – Dean & Linda Chase (1996)
- 11 – Richard & Sandy Strosahl (1966)
- 15 – Ted & Jan Jackson (1957)
- 26 – Norm & Judy Carbiener (1964)



GRADUATE RECOGNITION

The following is a list of graduates and their plans for the future:

- ★ **Dereck Chase**, son of Linda & Dean Chase, grandson of Kay Chase will graduate from United Township High School on June 3. He will be attending Black Hawk College to study computer technology.
- ★ **Derek DeCola**, grandson of Karen & Roger Thorsvold will graduate from Dublin Scioto High School in Dublin, Ohio on May 28. He will attend Ohio State University in the fall.
- ★ **Kenneth Jones**, son of Alesha & Mike Jones; grandson of Shirley Lofgren will graduate from Moline High School in May. He will attend Blackhawk College in the fall.
- ★ **Ian Mudd**, son of Mike & Stephanie Mudd, grandson of Marilyn Mudd will graduate from Pleasant Valley High School on May 28. He is planning to stay locally for college.
- ★ **Nolan Winter**, grandson of Dale & Joan Winter will graduate from Spalding High School in Griffin, Georgia. He will attend of University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia in the fall.
- ★ **Benjamin Thomas Woeber**, grandson of Arla Olson will graduate from Alleman High School on May 28. He will attend Iowa State in Ames, IA in the fall.
- ★ **Jenna Ketelsen**, daughter of Kirk & Renee Ketelsen, graduated from Western Illinois University, QC Campus on May 14 with a Bachelor of Business degree in Human Resource Management. On May 15, Jenna began working at Modern Woodmen, Rock Island.
- ★ **Kendall A. Knowles**, daughter of Pastor Donald and Mary Knowles, graduated from Western Illinois University, QC Campus on May 14 with a Bachelor of Business degree in Accounting.
- ★ **Alicia and Amanda Harmening**. Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Harmening of East Moline, IL announce with great pride the graduation of their daughter. **Alicia Harmening** from Black Hawk College with an Associate's Degree in Nursing. **Amanda Harmening** from Carl Sandburg College with an Associate's Degree as a Radiology Technologist.
- ★ **Kayla Elaine Wernsing**, daughter of Cristy & Mike Wernsing and granddaughter of Jerry & Pat Cornelius, will graduate on June 2 with honors from Sauk-Prairie High School in Sauk City, Wisconsin. She will be attending Iowa State University in the fall



“NEW” CHURCH DIRECTORY

Plans are underway for an updated pictorial directory. A number of new members have been welcomed to Calvary since our last directory in 2013. Tentative photography dates have been set for August 24, 25 and 26. Mark your calendars and help us make this directory as complete as possible.



WELCA - (No Meeting during July or August)

- ❖ **Deborah Circle** – Tuesday, June 6 at **The Windmill** in East Moline at 9:00 am for a breakfast meeting. All women are welcome to join us.
- ❖ **Happy Hookers** – will meet at 9:30 on June 28 and on July 26th. Enjoy fellowship while doing quilting and handiwork.
- ❖ **Northern Illinois Synod** Women's Organization Convention – Saturday, September 16, 2017



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

♥ I would like to thank WELCA for my confirmation reception and to everyone who came or sent cards. I was amazed that you would recognize me as I have been attending Trinity Lutheran for confirmation classes.

---- Brianna Griebel

♥ Dear Friends, Thank you so much for your great donation of children clothes and shoes. Most of our client children have all most nothing when they come to us and are excited to get something "new."

---- The Staff at Winnies Place

BUS TRIP



Bus Trip

Pastor is exploring the possibility of organizing a bus trip to Gettysburg and Washington, D.C. for this fall or the sp[ring] of 2018.

The 6 night/7 day trip would include tours of the Gettysburg Battlefield, the monuments of Washington, D.C. (both during the day and at night), Arlington National Cemetery and the National Cathedral. Time will also be allotted for exploring other parts of Gettysburg, the museums of the Smithsonian, the Kennedy Center, and the White House Visitors Center. The tentative cost for the trip is \$1042.00/person based double occupancy. The cost includes six breakfasts and six dinners plus six nights housing. If you think you might like to be a part of this trip, please let Pastor know. A minimum of 30 participants is needed.

LUNCH BUNCH - will meet on June 20th and July 18. Invite your friends and family to join us for good food and fellowship.



On July 18, Veronica Henderson will be our guest and will entertain with her harp. Please watch the bulletin for further information.



BECKI MAXSON – Parish Nurse

Becki will be at Calvary every other Sunday. If you have a question you may contact her at home (309) 762-1511 or by email: maxsonr@bhc.edu.

JULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday to:

- 1 – LeRoy Freeze
- 5 – Dale Armstrong
- 7 – Terry Langston,
- 12 – Tim Alan Miller
- 15 – Tim Lee Miller (son)
- 16 – Mary Ann Behrens
- 18 – Steve Miller
- 23 – Roger Thorsvold
- 24 – Dean Chase
- 26 – Arla Olson
- 27 – Jeremiah Griebel
- 30 – Dung Pham, Jonathan Bunch



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:

- 4 – Gordon & Linda Nelson (1970)
- 14 – LeRoy & Fran Freeze (1956)
- 17 – Warren & Jeanette Wren (1976)



AUGUST NEWSLETTER

DEADLINE is July 13.



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. Also, please watch your email as I will be publishing a "Calvary Notes" page either the end of June or first of July for up-coming events; i.e. the date for the Jazz Service and other information.

Thanks to all who helped make our All Daughter's Banquet such a success. Nearly 70 ladies (young and old) were there to enjoy the delicious dinner provided by Jeffs Market. Thank you also to the lovely models of our "Unique" style show. The outfits you created were ingenious and definitely "one of a kind". Everyone who attended had as much fun as the stylists had with their creations.



SERVICE COMMITTEE Helping Homeless Veterans

During the months of **June** and **July** we will be collecting the following for our Veterans – Dryer sheets, laundry soap, dish soap and sponges. There will be a collection box in the Narthex area.

Ladies Night Out on Tuesday, July 18 at 6:00 pm at Arthur's Garden Deli, 3717 Blackhawk Road, Rock Island. Meet at the restaurant. All Ladies are welcome to attend. Let Sue Knipe or Marilyn Gross know you are coming.



THANKSGIVING IN JULY Returns in 2017

Calvary will join with churches across the Quad Cities to collect large donations of non-perishable food and items for Churches United from July 1st through July 31st. The food will go to the pantries that we support.

Nonperishable item needs include baby food; canned fruits and vegetables; canned meat such as tuna, Spam and chicken; peanut butter; rice; pasta and pasta sauce; macaroni and cheese; juice boxes; boxed meals and soups. Paper goods – toilet paper and diapers – are also needed and gratefully accepted.

Cash donations are especially appreciated and allow the food pantries to buy bulk food at a reduced cost. Make checks payable to Churches United Thanksgiving in July.

Please prayerfully consider supporting our food pantries at a higher level. Calvary does a great job each month but the need continues to be there. For questions, please see Marilyn Gross or Ruth Laabs-Wilcox.



Thanks to Becki Maxon, our Parish Nurse and her assistant (husband) Dick Kramer for the 3-hour emergency training class held Monday evening,

May 22. *Ten of our Calvary members completed training in CPR, operation of the AED machine we have just outside the Narthex, and the methods to handle choking situations. We also learned how to recognize stroke victims and the importance of getting immediate care for them. We appreciate your teaching the class, Becki!

*The following parishioners successfully completed the American Heart Association Heart Saver CPR/AED course: Karen and Roger Thorsvold, Carol Mayo, Jaclyn Dooley, Greg Johnson, Debbie and Steve Faith, Marilyn Gross, Gary Gross and Barb Geerts. Thank them for taking the time to learn these life saving skills!

Service COMMITTEE **June 10 – Café on Vine**
 Our next Service project will be to serve at Café on Vine at 12:00 (noon) on June 10th. If you would be willing to volunteer to help, please contact Ruth Laabs-Wilcox.



ICE CREAM SOCIAL
 Sponsored by Relay for Life
JULY 16 – 3:00 – 6:00 P.M.

The Calvary Crusaders invite you and your friends to a fun afternoon of bingo, prizes and music. Oh, yes, and food...we'll have the famous Whitey's Ice Cream and luscious pastries and desserts or you may choose to make a sundae with various toppings. Our menu will also include yummy bar-b-ques and hotdogs served with chips – all for your generous donations to Relay for Life. A grant from Thrivent Insurance will be used to cover expenses, so all your donations will benefit the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life – thank you in advance. (As of now our team has \$1303 credited on the Relay web site – the fund raising deadline is Aug. 10th.)

The music for the afternoon will be provided by a father-son singing duo, Ray and Scott Wierson from Davenport. You and your guests will love hearing them sing the wonderful familiar popular songs that we enjoy so much!

Count your blessings and remember your gifts this summer. As you are enjoying the summer activities that may take you away from your church family on Sundays, please remember your weekly gifts to Calvary. Just like when we vacation from home, our monthly bills still come in and need to be paid. You could mail your envelope in or drop it off when you will be out of town.





JAZZ SERVICE
August 6 – 10 a.m.

Mark your calendar for August 6! Once again, the “Prodigal Sons Jazz Band will play at our worship service. As many of you know, these musicians have played for us the last several years to everyone’s enjoyment. Our service will coincide with The Bix Beiderbecke Festival to be held August 3 through 5 in Davenport, IA.

Please invite your family and friends to this wonderful, upbeat service. Guaranteed you will have a “jazzy” and spirit filled time!



RELAY FOR LIFE
CALVARY CRUSADERS

❖ **SUNDAY, June 25 & July 23** – Relay Coffee Hour. Look for Special Treats.

THANK YOU...TO ALL who attended the Taco Lunch on Sunday, May 21 – we had such a good crowd and a wonderful response to our fund-raising - \$270. Also many thanks to all those on the Relay team for help with the set-up, serving and clean-up - (Terry & Connie Langston, Becki Maxson, Dennis and Cheryl Wage, and others who volunteered that were not on the Relay team – you are so appreciated.)

Thivent T-Shirts - if you have participated in one of the “Thivent Action team events” by giving a donation or working on one, there are really nice light-weight t-shirt available in the Upper Room, perfect for the long hot summer...and giving Thivent credit for their help with our church projects.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH, ROCK ISLAND
SWEDISH FOLK ARTS FEST
Saturday, June 10 – 10 am – 3 pm

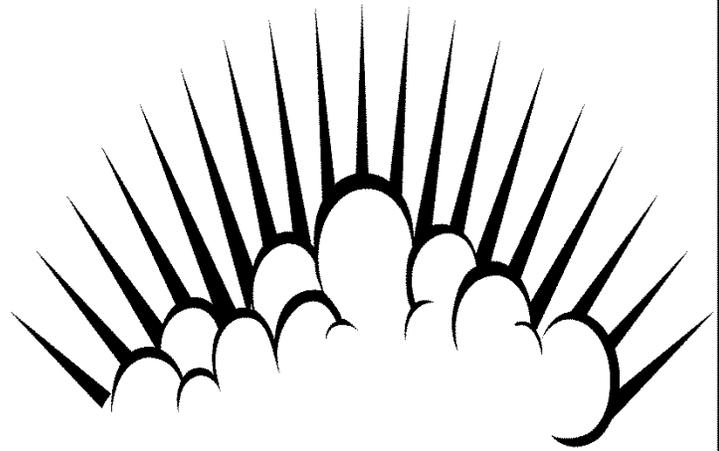
First Lutheran invites you to come to a Swedish Folk Arts Fest to be held on Saturday, June 10 from 10 am – 3 pm. There will be weaving, carving, needlework, baked goods, smoothies, rummage sale, music, yoga, food, coffee and more! This is a FREE, Fun family community event. All are welcome!



Our heavenly Father

Father’s Day is the perfect time to remember God, our heavenly Father. What does the psalmist say about him?

Directions: Complete Psalm 89:26 by placing the correct vowels in the blanks.



“H_ w_ll c_ll _ _t t_ m_

‘Y_ _r m_ F_th_r, m_

G_d, th_ R_ck m_ S_v_r.”

Ps_lm 89:26, N_V

Answer: “He will call out to me, ‘You are my Father, my God, the Rock my Savior.’” Psalm 89:26, NIV