

Calvary Courier

August 2018

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor:

Dr. Craig Nesson, a professor at Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque, offered an image of the church in his keynote address at the Northern Illinois Synod Assembly. His description implied that the church is often like a building in which there is a force field around the door.

First, he suggested, this force field repels people attempting to come inside. His critique, at this point, is that we often make it uncomfortable for people who are not like us to join us in our worshiping community. While I don't believe this is generally true for our congregation, I think we can run the risk of unintentionally pushing away (or not embracing) those who join us who are different. It is an interesting commentary of some (perhaps many) congregations. I have certainly been a part of congregations that are like that.

It is the second part of the image, however, that most intrigued me. In this instance, the force field restricts those who are leaving the building. It isn't that the force field prevents people from going out from the church, but it forces them to compact their faith to such an extent that it becomes invisible – hidden away. His point here, I believe, is to say that we are often reluctant to share our faith in the world in which we live our daily lives. We certainly move out beyond the walls of our congregation, but we fail to bring our faith with us in any visible form. I think this is an accurate description of most mainline protestant churches (including Lutherans) and perhaps our congregations, too.

Dr. Nesson's point (along with our other keynote speaker at assembly) is that the vitality of the church really depends not on our ability to bring people into the church (although that would be good, too), but rather to bring the church (our faith) out into the world.

Bringing the word of God to the world sounds like an intimidating task. That is the job of the missionaries that we support, right? But in reality, the task of bringing the word of God to the world belongs to all of us. That is the mission to which we were called in baptism, and to which we accepted as we affirmed our faith in confirmation.

So, does that mean we should all be boarding a plane to Africa or South America or Asia to be missionaries? Not at all. The truth is all of us are "out in the world" every day. The "world" includes Moline and Rock Island. It includes Davenport and Bettendorf. And it even includes such far flung places as Iowa City and Peoria. We are already out in the mission field every day. Our challenge is not in "going out," but rather in resisting the force field that works to keep our faith hidden. The challenge is to be bold and brave enough to share our faith while we are out daily in the world.

Sharing our faith can be uncomfortable for many of us. Let me suggest that it doesn't have to be complicated. Simply saying to a friend or co-worker "I believe that God loves me, and he loves you, too," is a good start.

Between the members of St. James and Calvary we have people regularly in places around the Quad Cities, around the country, and around the world. Wouldn't it be an interesting challenge to keep track of where our members have shared the gospel in their regular travels? I suspect we could produce a very full map. Perhaps we should try.

In Christ,

Pastor Knowles

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES


Happy Birthday to:

- 2 – Bryce Chase
- 8 – Addi Miller
- 10 – Valorie Daniel
- 11 – Marilyn Mudd
- 12 – Haley Mudd
- 15 – Sheila Doering
- 20 – Lee Ann Carlson
- 22 – Gerda Schmeltzer
- 24 – Debra McClanahan
- 25 – Tyler De’Shawn Bowser-Smith
- 29 – Jan Jackson
- 30 – Tyler Lee Miller
- 31 – Linda Miner



Happy Anniversary to:

- 9 – Connie & Terry Langston (1997)
- 14 – LaVerne & Sue Knipe (1976)
- 16 – Allen & Judy Noftsker (1998)
- 20 – Greg & Karla Kirkwood- Johnson (1977)
- 27 – Rev. Don & Mary Knowles (1983)
- 29 – Rick & Pam Ohrn (1981)
- 29 – Jeff & Michele Selander (1998)

Congratulations to Steve and Debbie Faith on the birth of their newest grandson, Elijah Edward born on July 5th. He weighed 5 lbs. 13 oz and was 19” long. He is the son of Nathan and Arika Faith.

EVENTS FOR SUNDAY, JULY 29TH

JAZZ SERVICE

July 29th– 10:30 a.m.



As a Reminder - July 29 is our Jazz Service. 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 2 through August 4 in Davenport, IA.

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



CAFÉ

Saturday, July 28 at 9:30 a.m.
August Date - to be determined
 Moline Public Library Café,
 3210 41st Street, Moline, IL
 Sponsored by St. James WELCA

Please join us for a cup of coffee, tea, and maybe a pastry, as we gather for Bible Study. All women of St. James Lutheran and Calvary Lutheran Churches are invited.



Sunday, July 29th
At Approximately 11:30 am
In Erlander Hall
Sponsored by Relay for Life


The Calvary Crusaders invite you and your friends to “Come on Down” to Erlander Hall after the Jazz Service on **Sunday, July 29**. We will serve food... and Oh, yes, 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. Beginning at 1:00 p.m. we will play bingo.

Vesper Service
July 29th at 7:00 p.m.



Pastor Donald Knowles will be preaching at Jenny Lind Chapel on July 29th at 7:00 p.m. in Andover, IL



**Goodbye,
 Best Wishes
 &
 Thank You!**

We would like to Thank Deb and Dave McClanahan for all the work they have done for Calvary. Their jobs have been numerous over the years and you will be missed. We wish you God Speed as you move on in your lives. May God continue to bless you and keep you always in the Palm of His Hand.



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

➤ We would like to THANK Calvary for letting us set up a Car Wash in June to raise money for the ELCA National Youth Convention in Houston. We made over \$400, considering it was such a HOT Saturday!

---- Brianna Griebel and the Youth from Trinity Lutheran Church, Moline

➤ A generous \$438.75 gift from a valued Member Church and partner in service to our mission and ministries helps us nurture and strengthen those most in need in our community through the grace and blessing of God’s love. We are blessed and a blessing to CareLINK clients and the QC Community!

---- Churches United

➤ Thank you and the wonderful members of Calvary Lutheran for your support of LOMC!

----- In His Love, Russ Senti, Exec. Director

➤ Churches United of the Quad City Area gratefully acknowledges and accepts your generous \$153 contribution to CareLINK. Thank you for the continued commitment to help us nurture and strengthen those most in need through the grace and blessing of God’s love.

---- In Peace, Rev. Dr. Melvin Grimes, Exec. Dir
Betsy Vanausdeln, Associate Dir.

Happy Hookers – will meet at 9:30 on August 29. All women are invited for a morning of creative activities, food and fellowship. This group always meets on the last Wednesday of the month.



WELCA - (No Meeting during July or August)

❖ **Northern Illinois Synod** Women’s Organization Convention – Saturday, September 15, 2018. We will be sponsoring a delegate – other women also invited to attend.



We offer our sympathies and prayers to Karyn Hurst, and to family and friends on the passing of Todd Hurst. Todd passed away on Thursday, July 19.. Funeral services were held at Calvary on Wednesday, July 25 at 10:00 am. May each of you find refuge and comfort in our Lord, Jesus Christ.



SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

DEADLINE is August 9th

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.

LUNCH BUNCH – AUGUST 21ST



Everyone invited – and bring your friends for lunch at 11:00 a.m. There is always plenty of food, good conversation and a few jokes before an interesting activity or program. Our program this month will feature musical entertainment by Veronica Henderson We will want to wish her well as she heads off to Grinnell College in August.

Calvary Mortgage

As of June 18, 2018 the mortgage on our building has been paid off! We were able to do this thanks to an anonymous \$50,000 donation paid directly toward the mortgage principal this past winter, with the remaining balance (approximately \$45,000) being paid from the proceeds of Alan Johnson’s trust. Paying off the mortgage reduces our monthly expenses by approximately \$1,300. It is the hope of the church council that members will maintain their contributions to the Building and Improvement Fund for use on future building needs, such as our recent expenditures to repair the air conditioner for the sanctuary. We plan to hold a ceremonial “burning of the mortgage” in conjunction with our 100th Anniversary Celebration.



ST. JAMES – CORN ROAST!

August 19 – 4:00 pm

St. James has invited Calvary family and friends to their CORN ROAST on August 19th at 4:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall at St. James.

All are invited for an evening of fellowship, food and CORN! If you are interested please bring a side dish or salad to share, please contact St. James Office at 309-786-0503.

Please let Teri know in the church office if you were planning on attending. This year, St. James is also welcoming All Saints Episcopal Church.



RELAY FOR LIFE CALVARY CRUSADERS

❖ **SUNDAY, August 26** – Stop in the Upper Room to have some refreshments and special treats – your donations are appreciated.

The Calvary Crusaders Relay Team was awarded Silver Team status in the Quad –Cities 2018 relay. Thanks to everyone’s support, our team raised a total of \$3,613. This included donations from our sponsor, Culvers (Moline & East Moline), donations from patrons and our fund raising efforts here at church. Our thanks to Thrivent Financial for a \$250 grant to help with expenses.

The overall total from the 2018 Quad-Cities relay was \$84,154 with 27 teams and sponsors participating.

The relay Ice Cream Social on Sunday, July 29, will be the start for fund-raising for the 2019 relay year.

The 2019 event website is open – www.relayforlife.org/quadcitiesil. Register under Calvary Crusaders to be part of our team for the coming year.



100th Anniversary News

As many of you know – Calvary will be celebrating our 100th Anniversary on November 19, 2019. Starting this November, we will have various events planned throughout the coming year. Please watch the newsletter and bulletin for more information.

If you would like to be on our committee, help with an event, or contribute in any way, please contact Pam Gross, Debbie Faith or Teri Griebel. Our Next meeting is August 15th at 5:30 p.m. in the Upper Room.

Northern IL Synod Assembly

The theme for the 31st Northern Illinois Synod Assembly was Vim, Vigor, Vitality; In Christ a New Creation. Besides the business meeting and elections, we had 2 guest speakers that were very inspiring. Rev. Dr. Bouman talked about Vital Disciples for Vital Communities of Jesus and he gave a Church-wide report of domestic missions. We as Christians have the power of teaching and passing on the faith to those around us. A comment he made that stuck with me is that “Do we love to tell the story or do we just love the story?” It is up to us to spread the word of Christ to those we meet. Dr. Nesson was the other speaker. He spoke about being an authentic Christian and making sure that we align our words with our behavior. We also need to be able to tell our story about what Christ has done in our lives.

On Friday evening we went to First Lutheran in Moline for a vespers service. Before the service, we heard from congregations celebrating major anniversaries this year as they shared about their history and events for the anniversary. Some ministers and staff were recognized for different things and there was a remembrance of departed Saints which included our Pastor Bob Pearson this year. On Saturday afternoon Bishop Clements presided over the service of Ordination for 3 new pastors.

There were 4 resolutions passed - 2 involved making a season of creation part of the church year and caring for God’s creation and 2 involved dealing with world hunger. For more information about the assembly, you can go to the Synod website: nisynod.org and get full details about the event.

Pam Gross - Delegate