

Calvary Courier

September 2017

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor

At this time of year, as the major league baseball season ramps up, I think a lot about my mother. Mom, who passed away about nine years ago, grew up in the Andersonville neighborhood of Chicago, about 2 miles and a short bus ride to Wrigley Field. As a young woman, mom spent many afternoons at Wrigley, especially on Ladies' Days. She was an avid Cub fan. And so now, as I watch the games on TV, I hear my mother's voice cheering them on or critiquing them. The other day, for instance, as the Cubs were shellacking Cincinnati 15-5, I heard my mother saying, "Save some of those runs for tomorrow." (And sure enough, the Cubs lost the next night 2-1.)

Mom would also be complaining about all the maneuvering modern managers make. She could never tolerate the idea of a relief pitcher coming into the game to face one batter, or a player entering the game for defensive purposes, or sending up a left handed pinch hitter to face a right handed relief pitcher. And don't even get her started about designated hitters. In her day, a pitcher took the mound for nine innings unless his arm was about to fall off. Players were expected to be able to play defense and hit the ball no matter which arm a pitcher used. Baseball players played baseball – all aspects of the game. She would never understand how specialized baseball players have become.

Without debating whether such changes are good or bad for baseball, it is the reality of the game. Teams utilize the strengths of their players and try to minimize their weaknesses. It seems to be the best way for teams to succeed in modern era baseball.

And perhaps the same could be said for the modern day church. At least for those of us in mainline denominations, the days of a congregation being all things to all people may be gone. The number of

people participating in the life of our congregations has dwindled compared to the heydays of the 60's and 70's. Our membership appears to be aging. And, as you are well aware, the number of pastors available for call is also shrinking.

So, I would suggest that now may be a good time to see our congregations as major league baseball teams see their players. Now is a good time for us to recognize our strengths and utilize them for the benefit of the kingdom of God, while letting other congregations utilize their strengths where we may have a weakness. Now is the time when we should be looking to our brothers and sisters in other congregations as partners in ministry instead of competitors for members. Now is the time when we need to understand ourselves as members of the body of Christ working together for the sake of the whole body.

As members of St. James and Calvary that is exactly what you have begun to do. We are at the beginning of a joint venture, sharing our strengths for the sake of the kingdom of God in the Quad Cities. Together we become a stronger, bolder witness to the love of God in our communities.

God bless us as we seek to do our part, together with the whole Church, in bringing the kingdom of God to the world.

In Christ,

Pastor Knowles



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday to:

- 1 – Kenneth Jones
- 2 – Fran Freeze
- 3 – John Henriksen
- 4 – Dave Griebel
- 5 – Debbie Faith
- 7 – Doris Henriksen, Linda Nelson
- 8 – Ruth Laabs-Wilcox
- 11 – Mark Jackson
- 17 – Gary Gross
- 19 – Mary Knowles
- 20 – Randy Bowser
- 23 – Ronny Woitte
- 26 – Lisa Blair, Jeanette Peters
- 27 – Christine Mellgren
- 28 – David Menke



Happy Anniversary to:

- 14 – Steve & Debbie Faith (1974)
 - Kirk & Renee Ketelsen (1991)
- 17 – Paul & Dawn Levesque (1988)
- 20 – Kurt & Lisa Dicks (1986)
- 25 – Carroll & Elaine Foster (1993)
 - David & Annette Menke (1960)



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

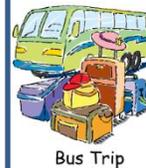
♥ Terry and I would like to thank everyone for the thoughts, prayers and cards sent to us over the past 2 months. We are so grateful to be part of such a loving and caring congregation. It is so nice to be back to church.

---- Connie and Terry

• Thank you for your contribution of \$146 to Churches United of the Quad City Area. Your contribution will help with the E.Moline/Moline CareLINK. With your contribution we will be able to continue our mission of serving our community.

----Blessings, Ann Wachal, Executive Director

BUS TRIP



The Gettysburg/DC bus trip has been cancelled. Pastor is exploring the possibility of rescheduling the trip for the spring.

THANKSGIVING in JULY



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE......from the Service Committee.....for your contributions to the “Thanksgiving in July”

food drive sponsored by Churches United. Our church collected 422 pounds of food items which included food purchased with a Thrivent Action Team Grant of \$250.00. Food was delivered to Churches United office by Ruth Laabs-Wilcox and Jack and Marilyn Gross. An announcement of our final total was announced on Sunday, Aug. 20 with cookies and ice cream celebration in the Upper Room.

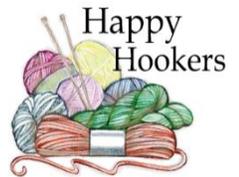
Note: This year Churches United also added two new business partners. Money collected from various groups and 2 days of Streetfest in Davenport netted \$6,399 x 4 pounds = 25,596 pounds

Total food collected from various groups, churches, etc. was 4,176 items x 1.5 pounds = 6,264 pounds

The total number of pounds collected was 31,860 (15.9 ton).

HAPPY HOOKERS

The Happy Hookers will meet on Wednesday, September 27, at 9:30 a.m. So many worthwhile projects are being made – you can always find something to do to help – no excuses!!! We meet on the last Wednesday of every month.



LUNCH BUNCH - September 19

Tuesday, Sept. 19 from 11:00 – 1:00 p.m. come for a delicious lunch. Our interesting program presented by Heidi Woeber, biologist from the U.S.



Fish and Wildlife Service will be on the relocation of endangered mussels in the Mississippi, part of the new Interstate 74 bridge project. The Federal Highway Administration has presented its 2017 Environmental Excellence Award to the contributors of this project. (Heidi is Arla Olson's daughter.)

NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE

**OCTOBER NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE is September 14**

Please be sure all items are into the church office **NO LATER** than **September 14!** September is a Short month, with the newsletter being distributed the following Thursday, September 21. Thank You.

God's left hand

A 6-year-old and his grandma went for a walk one autumn day. "Look at the gorgeous leaves!" Grandma exclaimed. "Just think, God painted each one of them just for us!"

"Yep," said her grandson, "and he did it left-handed."

Perplexed, Grandma asked, "Why do you think God used his left hand to create all this beauty?"

"Because," said the boy matter-of-factly, "we learned in Sunday school that Jesus sits on God's right one."

+Christian Symbol+ Deer



The deer symbolizes safety in God's care, as seen in David's praise of God for delivery from enemies: "[The Lord] makes my feet like the feet of a deer; he causes me to stand on the heights" (2 Samuel 22:34; Psalm 18:33, NIV). The deer also represents faithfulness and eager devotion: "As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God" (Psalm 42:1, NIV).



WELCA NEWS

All Calvary & St. James women are invited to attend

Deborah Circle – Tuesday, September 5 at 9:00 am in the Upper Room. Hostess is Karen Thorsvold.

WELCA FALL SALAD SUPPER

Thursday, September 28 at 6:00 p.m.

All ladies of Calvary are invited to attend and asked to bring a salad to share. Ladies of St. James Lutheran will be our guests. Come and enjoy the fellowship and sharing with our sisters in Christ.

NEW FLOORING PROJECT –

WELCA has voted to replace the linoleum flooring in Erlander Hall, hallways, and kitchen downstairs and the kitchenette in the Upper Room with Coreluxe vinyl plank flooring. The project will be done in the next few weeks by contractor Brady Brower, owner of "Then & Now Construction."

NORTHERN ILLINOIS SYNOD – WELCA CONVENTION

The 29th Annual Convention for NIS will be held Sat., September 16 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1013 Franklin Grove Rd., Dixon, IL. with the theme "Lifting the Least." Bishop Jeffery Clements will be the speaker. A report will be given on the Triennial Convention held in Minneapolis this summer. Physical offerings of hygiene items will be given to Nachusa Lutheran Home. Marilyn Gross has registered as our delegate and will represent Calvary.

CALVARY CRUSADERS

RELAY FOR LIFE FOR 2017



The Calvary Crusaders Relay team received "Silver Team" status in the final accounting for this year's Relay with a total of \$3,736 in donations. WE RANKED #5 in team standings for the Quad Cities Relay. A "big" thank you from everyone on the team to all who have so generously supported us in our fund-raising efforts this year.

Lutherans
& Catholics....



United in our love for Christ, Lutherans and Catholics in Moline, IL, are coming together for an historic event marking the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation.

Please join us as we celebrate our "oneness" in Christ.

On the Way ... Lutherans and Catholics in Dialogue

- 4:00 p.m.— Educational Event at St. Mary's Catholic Church,
412 10th St., Moline, IL.
- 5:15 p.m.—Processional from St. Mary's to First Lutheran Church, 1230 5th Ave., Moline, IL.
- 5:45 p.m.—Combined worship service at First Lutheran.
- 6:15 p.m.—Light supper to follow.

(Parking available at either church.)

Featured celebrants will include:

Father Michael R. Schaab

Former pastor of St. Pius X Catholic Church, Rock Island, and instructor at St. Ambrose University, Davenport.

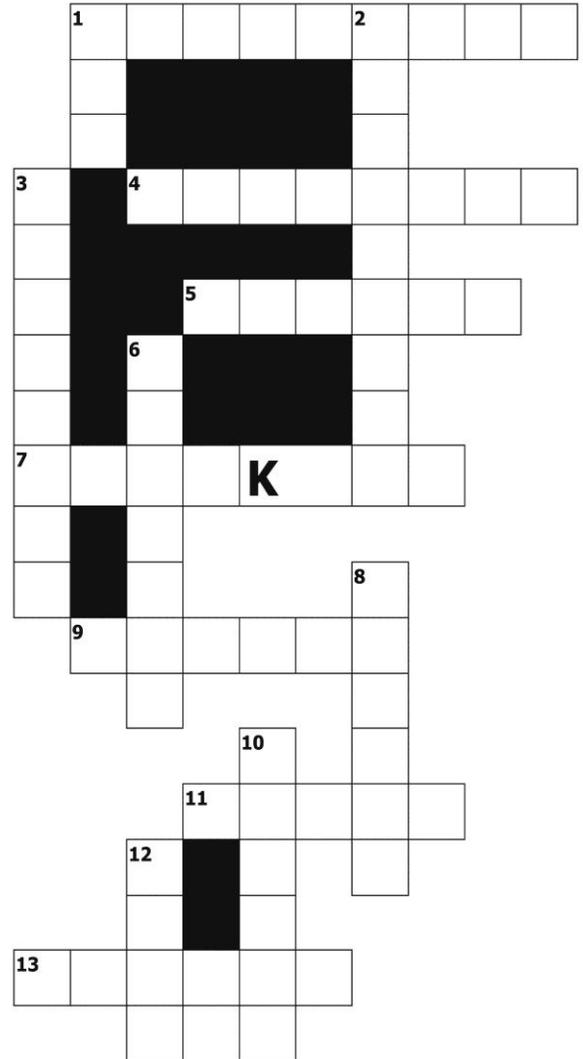
The Rev. Lowell G. Almen

Former secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

On Saturday, October 14, members of the Lutheran and Catholic Churches are being invited to come together for a joint service project with Habitat for Humanity homes in the area. Please plan to attend these historic events for the churches of Moline. Additional details will be available in the next few weeks.

Puzzle!

Use the clues to complete this crossword about women in the Bible.



- 1. (across) Cousin of Mary (Luke 1:36)
- 1. (down) Mother of Abel (Genesis 4:1-2)
- 2. Mother of Solomon (2 Samuel 12:24)
- 3. Moses' wife (Exodus 2:21)
- 4. Lied about her giving to the church (Acts 5:1)
- 5. Saved her people from destruction in Persia (also a Bible book name)
- 6. A judge in Israel (Judges 4)
- 7. Mother of Esau (Genesis 25:21, 25)
- 8. The wife Jacob loved (Genesis 29:20)
- 9. Sister of Mary (John 11:1)
- 10. Sewed clothes (Acts 9:39)
- 11. Hosea's wife (Hosea 1:3)
- 12. Sat at Jesus' feet in conversation (Luke 10:39)
- 13. Sister of Moses and Aaron (Exodus 15:20)

Answers: 1. (across) Elizabeth, 1. (down) Eve, 2. Bathsheba, 3. Zipporah, 4. Sapphira, 5. Esther, 6. Deborah, 7. Rebekah, 8. Rachel, 9. Martha, 10. Dorcas, 11. Gomer, 12. Mary, 13. Miriam