



# *Calvary Courier*

*August 2024*

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

## **From the Pastor,**

“Where are you from?”

During my final year of seminary, I got a job as a server at a family restaurant right on the edge of the seminary campus in Gettysburg. (It was called General Lees, but the building originally housed a Dutch Pantry, for those of you who may find that meaningful.) Because Gettysburg is such a popular tourist destination in the United States, I had the opportunity to meet people from all across the country. When I had the opportunity, I would ask the customers I was serving, “Where are you from?” For me, at the very least, that conversation opened up a dialogue about places I’d never been. More often than one might expect, however, I had some connection with the customer’s hometown. Perhaps I’d been there, or I knew someone who had lived there, or I knew something about the place. It was a fun way to make connections with people and gave us something in common. It made the world seem a little smaller.

“Where are you from?” is a question that comes up often in the Gospel of John. It is a theme, in particular, about Jesus. Where is Jesus from? While some might recall that he is from Nazareth, the real answer in John’s gospel is that Jesus is from God.

At the same time John suggests that Jesus’ followers, through the Spirit, have the same origin. We, too, are ultimately from God.

While that may seem like an obvious, and therefore inconsequential, answer, if we take the time to seriously consider what that means, the implications could be world changing.

Just as I felt an affinity for people that may have lived someplace familiar to me or where I was from, so too might we feel an affinity for people when we recognize that like us, they too are “from God.” To recognize that all the people around us are, like us, children of God, might make the world seem a little smaller. Even if those others may be on the opposite side of the aisle when it comes to all manner of social, political, or economic issues, if we remember that we come from the same place then it is easier to treat them as the brothers and sisters that they are.

In Christ,

*Pastor Knowles*

---

**JOINT CHURCH SERVICE at ST. JAMES**

**PLEASE NOTE: ON SEPTEMBER 1, CHURCH SERVICES WILL BE HELD AT ST. JAMES IN ROCK ISLAND AT 10:30 A.M. HOPE TO SEE EVERYONE THERE!**



**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

**Happy Birthday to:**

- 2 – Bryce Chase
- 8 – Addi Miller
- 10 – Valorie Daniel
- 11 – Marilyn Mudd
- 12 – Haley Mudd
- 15 – Sheila Doering

- 22 – Gerda Schmeltzer
- 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)



**GRADUATE RECOGNITION**

The following graduate was missed in June:

★ **Corey DeCola**, grandson of Karen & Roger Thorsvold, graduated on April 26, 2024 from the University of Cincinnati in Cincinnati, Ohio. He received a degree in Electrical Engineering and minor in Computer Science.

**NOTE DATE CHANGE:**

**HABITAT LUNCH – THURSDAY, AUGUST 8**

**Help us serve Lunch to Habitat workers**

On **Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup>** we’ll be serving lunch to the Habitat for Humanity volunteers. Depending on how many teams are working, we can have from ten to twenty hungry workers. The menu: Italian Beef on buns, pasta salad, chips, dessert, and drinks (non-alcoholic!). We still need donations of buns, chips and drinks. We also need a few volunteers to take the lunch to the jobsite, put it on the serving table, and stand by as folks get their lunch. There’s a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for donations and volunteers. What a great example of “*God’s Work Our Hands*”! Call me for more information. (240) 993-9004

Thank you, Pastor Q

**PLEASE NOTE –  
KNIT-A-BIT WILL NOT MEET IN AUGUST!**



**During the month of July**, we have received the following words of thanks...

❖ **2024 Boot Drive – update:** Thanks again to everyone for your prayers and donations to the campaign for kids’ boots. Calvary’s donations will pay for 48 pairs of boots, and St James’ donations will pay for 20 pairs of boots! The kids will appreciate all of our generosity for providing them with new boots. Thank you so much! Greg Johnson

----Greg Johnson

❖ Thank you to my Calvary family for keeping me wrapped in prayer while I had my hip surgery and dealing with the infection. Also, thanks for the cards and phone calls. May God continue to bless each of you.

---- Teri Griebel

❖ Pastor Don & all who volunteered at Synod assembly... Thank You!! We were scrambling to fill all of the volunteer slots, and we greatly appreciated seeing the Calvary volunteers! Please call on us if you are ever in need...

---- Peace & Blessings! Pastor Sue & the grateful folks at Salem

❖ Thank you for your continued support of the mission and ministries of Churches United. Your gift of \$160.83 for Moline Care Link, helps those in need for rent and utility assistance for this area. Your gift \$333.33 helps us keep the doors open at Winnie’s Transitional Housing; and, keep the shelves of our 22 food pantries filled.

---- Blessings, Rev. Dr. Melvin L. Grimes, Exec. Dir

❖ On behalf of Christian Care, I would like to thank you for your recent donation, which we received on 6/13/2024. Because of your gift, we can continue to serve the needs of men, women and children. The impact you are making will be felt throughout the community as we continue to work with our partners to address homelessness and food insecurity. Here are a few of ways your donation helps us: providing up to 21,900 nights of shelter and almost 40,000 meals served to men, women and children. Our street outreach services touch the lives of nearly 100 individuals who may struggle with conventional methods of help. It is because of people like you, we are able to do this important work.

---- Sincerely, Frank Roe, Exec. Dir.



**We offer our sympathies and prayers to Charlene Lundstrom and family on the passing of her step-sister, Brenda Sue Liggett. She passed away on July 8, 2024.**

We also offer our sympathies and prayers to Richard Strosahl, family and friends on the passing of Sandy. She passed away on July 20, 2024. Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. at Calvary with a luncheon following.

May each of you find refuge and comfort in our Lord, Jesus Christ



### HAPPY HOOKERS - August 28

The Happy Hookers will be meeting on Wednesday, August 28 at 9:30 a.m. Along the great fellowship and delicious snacks; the group continues to create quilts and lap robes and other items for people in need throughout the community. Everyone is welcome.

### CALVARY CARETAKER CREW (CCC)

**August 21**

August 21 at 9:00. CCC will meet for their monthly cleaning and care taking day. We work for an hour or so and then enjoy fellowship and food. There are indoor and outdoor jobs. Everyone is welcome.



### AUGUST DEADLINE Wednesday, August 14

Please have your articles to me no later than August 14. You may email them, place them in my box or call the church office.

### CHANGES TO THE DIRECTORY

Within the next month, I will be placing an updated directory in your boxes. If anyone has changes, i.e. dropped a land line phone, changed an email address or has moved; please let the office know.

**From Connie and Terry Langston:** We no longer have our land line. Terry's cell number is 309-292-1040 and mine is 309-292-1041.

**From Pam and Gary Gross:** They no longer have a land line. Gary's cell number is 563-320-3135 and Pam's is 309-738-2385.

### FAREWELL TO TED AND JAN JACKSON

On Sunday, July 21, a Farewell coffee was held after worship in the Upper Room to wish Ted and Jan Jackson God Speed. They will be moving to their new home in Ohio and will be leaving the Quad Cities on Friday, July 26.

Their mail will be forwarded to Scott and Brenda's for a while. Their address is: C/O Scott Jackson, 11101 Bridgewater Drive, N. Royalton, OH 44133

### COLLECTING PET FOOD JULY and AUGUST



We will be collecting pet food for our 4-legged friends to donate to QCAWC in Milan. They really need wet and dry kitten food. Purina Fancy Feast wet and Kitten dry as they have a lot of kittens to care for; along with Purina Cat Chow and Purina Dog Chow. We will have a plastic tub set up in the narthex.



2024 Boot Drive

for Kids in Romania and Guatemala

2024 Boot Drive - update

Thanks again to everyone for your prayers and donations to the campaign for kids' boots. Calvary's donations will pay for 48 pairs of boots, and St James' donations will pay for 20 pairs of boots! The kids will appreciate all of our generosity for providing them with new boots. Thank you so much! Greg Johnson

### Pastor Q planning a new Discussion Group

*Two important resolutions* were passed at Synod Assembly. One calls for us to take a stand against Christian Nationalism and the other is a step in the direction of becoming a Reconciling in Christ Synod.

If you're 'in the dark' about these two topics, you may not be alone. If you'd like to learn more about them and discuss these important issues with others in our congregation, please join us when our new Discussion

Group convenes in mid-September.

Thank you, Pastor Q



# Volunteer Schedule

Please read over carefully the two-month schedules. If you are unable to full-fill your commitment, please find a replacement and let Teri know in the office

## **ALTAR GUILD for AUGUST**

Judy Ingerson

## **LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. for AUGUST**

Aug. 4 – Val Daniel (L & CA)  
                   Connie Langsotn (CA)  
 Aug. 11 – Ruth Laabs (L & CA) ;  
                   Sandy Ohrn (CA)  
 Aug. 18 – Renee Ketelsen (L & CA))  
                   Joe Geerts (CA)  
 Aug. 25 – Gary Gross (L & CA);  
                   Bruce Daniels (CA)

## **BACK DOOR GREETERS for AUGUST**

Aug. 4 – Sandy Ohrn  
 Aug. 11 – Joe Geerts  
 Aug. 18 – Terry Langston  
 Aug. 25 – Barb Geerts

## **COUNTERS for AUGUST**

Aug. 4 – Gary Gross & Terry Langston  
 Aug. 11 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston  
 Aug. 18 – Pam Gross & Linda Chase  
 Aug. 25 – Charlene Lundstom & Vicki McAlister

## **USHERS/GREETERS for AUGUST**

Aug. 4 – Kirk Ketelsen  
 Aug. 11 – David Peterson & Terry Langston  
 Aug. 18 – Vicki McAlister & Ruth Laabs  
 Aug. 25 – Bruce & Val Daniel

## **ALTAR GUILD for SEPTEMBER**

Barb Geerts & Connie Langston

## **LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. for SEPTEMBER**

**Sept. 1 – WORSHIPING AT ST. JAMES**  
 Sept. 8 – Barb Geerts (L) ;  
                   Deb Faith & Renee Ketelsen (CA)  
 Sept. 15 – Sandy Ohrn (L & CA))  
                   Sheila Doering (CA)  
 Sept. 22 – Joe Geerts (L & CA);  
                   Terry Langston (CA)  
 Sept. 29 - Karla Kirkwood-Johnson (L)  
                   Bruce & Val Daniel (CA)

## **BACK DOOR GREETERS for SEPTEMBER**

**Sept. 1 – WORSHIPING AT ST. JAMES**  
 Sept. 8 – Deb Faith  
 Sept. 15 – Pam Gross  
 Sept. 22 – Vicki McAlister  
 Sept. 29 – Connie Langston

## **COUNTERS for SEPTEMBER**

**Sept. 1 – WORSHIPING AT ST. JAMES**  
 Sept. 8 – Deb Faith & Teri Griebel  
 Sept. 15 – Gary Gross & Terry Langston  
 Sept. 22 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston  
 Sept. 29 – Pam Gross & Linda Chase

## **USHERS/GREETERS for SEPTEMBER**

**Sept. 1 – WORSHIPING AT ST. JAMES**  
 Sept. 8 – Joe Geerts & Gary Gross  
 Sept. 15 – Kirk Ketelsen  
 Sept. 22 – David Peterson & Terry Langston  
 Sept. 29 – Vicki McAlister & Ruth Laabs