

Calvary Courier

November 2024

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor,

Please note: The bulk of my words to you this month are a repeat of what I wrote a year ago. In reviewing that letter, I realized that I wanted to say many of the same things again. So, while it may not be very creative, these words to you are heartfelt and important.

Thank you. That’s my simple message to you this month. *Thank you.* Because of your generosity we, as a congregation, have accomplished much. And so, I say thank you.

Yes, much of what we have done is somewhat mundane. We have paid for the electricity that we use to light and cool the building. We have paid the city of Moline for our sewer and water use. We have made sure we are protecting our assets by maintaining proper insurance. We have paid for janitorial service for the regular cleaning of the building. And we have done all the other things that are necessary to have a facility to house our congregation.

But we do those “maintenance things,” not for their own sake, but for the purpose of loving and serving God.

Because of your generosity we provide a weekly opportunity for people to gather to worship. And those people are not just members of Calvary. Over the course of the year we have had a number of people join us for worship as they are travelling through the area, visiting family, new residents of the area or people who are looking for something in their lives (perhaps as simple as a cup of coffee and a donut) and hope to find it among us. Some of those folks may hang around, others seem to come and go. But regardless, as we offer weekly worship, we touch the lives of our members and visitors in positive ways.

Because of your generosity we also touch the lives of people outside the walls of our building. Through your offerings we help fight food insecurity in the Quad

Cities (Café on Vine) and throughout the world (ELCA World Hunger Appeal, Christian Friendliness food pantry). Our offerings also bring hope and healing to people who are suffering (CareLink, Winnie’s Place, ELCA Disaster Relief, or boots for children in Romania). We have helped provide housing for struggling families (Habitat for Humanity lunches). Our support of the Happy Hookers brings warmth and comfort to nursing home residents, shut-ins, and to some homeless folks (with blankets donated to the Moline Police Department). Because of your generosity we have helped children attend camp (LOMC) or supported future leaders of the church through our gifts to the ELCA.

Your generous offerings throughout the year do so much more than just keep the lights on. Through your offerings, you extend the mission of our congregation to countless people in our community, our nation, and around the globe. We will never know how our offerings may touch the lives of others. But, be assured, our gifts to God through Calvary help share the love of Christ in so many ways. Your generosity makes a positive difference in people’s lives.

And so, I say thank you.

One final note: on Sunday, November 17, the Stewardship Committee invites you to have lunch in Erlander Hall as we give thanks for all God’s gifts to us. This year, as a part of this celebration, we will focus on how we use those gifts of our time, talents and possessions for our work in the mission of Christ in the world. There will be an emphasis on the use of our time and talents in particular. Please plan to join us.

In Christ,
Pastor Knowles





Happy Birthday to:

- 4 – Barb Geerts
- 11 – Allen Noftsker
- 12 - Viola Marie Bowser-Smith
- 13 – Paul Levesque
- 14 – Marianne Barnett
- 20 – Sharon Hough, Ann Lundstrom,
- 24 – Annette Menke, Karyn Hurst
- 27 – Richard Strosahl

Happy Anniversary to:

- 1 – Teri & Dave Griebel (1974)
- 4 – Michael & Kelly Chase (2006)
- 10 – Dick & Connie Jensen
- 15 – Barb & Joe Geerts (1980)

WELCA

Wednesday, November 6

WELCA will meet Wednesday, November 6 at 11:00 in the Upper Room. Bring a food item to share. Friends welcome. Volunteers for devotions welcome.



WELCA will once again be filling SHOE BOXES. Once we have the Shoe Boxes, they will be placed on a table outside the Upper Room. You may purchase items for the shoe boxes to be sent overseas and we will pack them or you can take a box home, pack it yourself and bring it back. Watch the bulletin board or bulletin inserts for instructions in the coming weeks.



**CAFÉ ON VINE
NOVEMBER 9**

We serve at Cafe on Vine on November 9. A sign-up chart is in the narthex. We will be looking for food and workers for this project.



We offer our sympathies and prayers to:

✝ To the Schmeltzer family and friends of Gerda Schmeltzer. She passed away on Saturday, October 5. Private graveside services were held on Friday, October 11.

✝ To the Jensen family and friend of Richard (Dick) Jensen. He passed away on Thursday, October 10. Funeral services were held at Calvary on Friday, October. 18.

✝ To the Jackson family and friends of Jan Jackson. She passed away on Sunday, October 20. Services were held in Ohio.

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



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

From Ruth Laabs: Thank you so much for Valorie Daniel's taking me to a procedure at the hospital and staying with me and, checking in on me when I got home. Also, thanks to Lily and Ellen for their emotional support and, offers to help; to Joe and Barb Geerts for bringing me the lessons and communion cups so that I could follow along on Sundays that I couldn't attend. Thank you for your prayers.

❖ **From Marilyn Mudd:** Thank you my Calvary family for all your prayers, sweet cards and many special visits. I'm healing but very slowly. Keep your prayers and visits coming. Miss you.



**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS –
NOVEMBER 3**

Please remember to turn your clocks back 1 hour before going to bed.

**CALVARY CARETAKER CREW (CCC)
November 20**

Wednesday November 20. CCC will meet at 9:00 to do some light cleaning around the church and then fellowship and snacks. All are welcome.



FOOD PANTRY DEADLINE – NOVEMBER 17

Calvary is once again collecting food for the Youth Hope Thanksgiving Baskets. A list of items are on the Narthex table. Please place your items in the hallway boxes. We would like all items brought to church no later than November 17th

FAITHFUL STEWARDS LUNCH NOVEMBER 17

On November 17 following worship, you are invited to lunch in Erlander Hall. We will discuss how we can use our time, talents, and possessions for Calvary’s ministries. There will also be a presentation about good stewardship through our financial giving to Calvary – maximizing our dollars for Christ’s work. Thrivent Action is providing the funds to cover the cost of the meal. Everyone is encouraged to attend. “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s Grace in its various forms”. 1 Peter 4:10

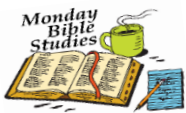


DECEMBER DEADLINE Tuesday, November 19

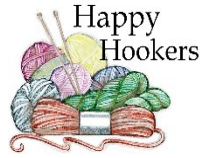
Please have your articles to me no later than November 19, as we are beginning to head into the holiday season. With Thanksgiving the following week, the newsletter will be out on Wednesday, November 27. If you DO NOT have your information to me by the deadline – I will not guarantee submission if it is late.

Your information may be emailed, placed in my box or you may call the church office. Thank you, Teri.

Monday Morning Bible Study Continues on Mondays



Bible Study is still meeting on Mondays at 10:00 a.m. We are studying the gospel of Matthew. A Zoom link will be available on the calendar page of Calvary’s website (www.calvarymoline.org). If you would like a link sent to your email, please ask Pastor Knowles. If you would prefer an evening study, Pastor Knowles will be leading a study of Matthew on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm at St. James.



HAPPY HOOKERS – NOVEMBER 20

Note Date Change - The Happy Hookers will be meeting on Wednesday, November 20 at 9:30 a.m. Along the great fellowship and delicious snacks. We will be getting our Christmas gifts ready. Everyone is welcome.

OUR SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

If you will be out of town during the months of **November, December or January**, please let the office know.

We are looking for volunteers to read the lessons during the year. If you do not want to serve communion, that is okay. We are also looking for Back Door greeters and to serve as an Usher.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Teri in the office. Thank you.

Our Discussion of

“The False White Gospel” is nearly done

In our final two meetings we will complete the series of Scripture passages which proclaim the True Gospel as it stands in opposition to the False White Gospel. On October 31 we’ll dig into Galatians 3:28 which proclaims the end of divisions between God’s people “for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.” On November 7, we’ll consider what will be our response to the call to follow in the Way of Jesus.

We meet on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. in Calvary’s Upper Room. You’re welcome to join our group if only for these last two sessions.

Thank you, Pastor Quentin Fleming

CHRISTMAS GIFTS to Foster Children



Thank you to everyone who has signed up to either buy a gift or give monetarily. Once we receive the names, we will let you choose a child. Please know the gifts are to be unwrapped and returned to church by Sunday, December 1. LSSI is also looking for wrapping paper, gift bags and tags.

Volunteer Schedule

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

ALTAR GUILD for NOVEMBER

Val & Bruce Daniel

LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. for NOVEMBER

- Nov. 3 – Gary Gross (L &CA);
Bruce Daniel (CA)
- Nov. 10 – Deb Faith (L & CA);
Connie Langston (CA)
- Nov. 17 – Joe Geerts (L & CA);
Terry Langston (CA)
- Nov. 24 – Sandy Ohrn (L & CA)
Sheila Doering (CA)

BACK DOOR GREETERS for NOVEMBER

- Nov. 3 – Sandy Ohrn
- Nov. 10 – Joe Geerts
- Nov. 17 – Connie Langston
- Nov. 24 – Barb Geerts

COUNTERS for NOVEMBER

- Nov. 3 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston
- Nov. 10 – Pam Gross & Linda Chase
- Nov. 17 – Charlene Lundstrom & Vicki McAlister
- Nov. 24 – Paul Levesque & Barb Geerts

USHERS/GREETERS for NOVEMBER

- Nov. 3 – David Peterson & Terry Langston
- Nov. 10 – Vicki McAlister & Volunteer
- Nov. 17 – Bruce & Val Daniel
- Nov. 24 – Paul Levesque & Barb Geerts

ALTAR GUILD for DECEMBER

Sandy Ohrn & Pam Ohrn

LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. for DECEMBER

- Dec. 1 – Paul Levesque (L & CA)
Dawn Levesque (CA)
- Dec. 8 – Karla Kirkwood-Johnson (L)
Bruce & Val Daniel (CA)
- Dec. 15 – Gary Gross (L & CA)
Sandy Ohrn (CA)
- Dec. 22 – Renee Ketelsen (L & CA)
Deb Faith (CA)
- Dec. 24 – Barb Geerts (L)
Connie & Terry Langston (CA)
- Dec. 29 – Tentative – Val Daniel – LEADER
NO COMMUNION

BACK DOOR GREETERS for DECEMBER

- Dec. 1 – Deb Faith
- Dec. 8 – Linda Chase
- Dec. 15 – Vicki McAlister
- Dec. 22 – Terry Langston
- Dec. 24 – Pam Gross
- Dec. 29 – Gary Gross

COUNTERS for DECEMBER

- Dec. 1 – Deb Faith & Teri Griebel
- Dec. 8 – Gary Gross & Terry Langston
- Dec. 15 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston
- Dec. 22 – Pam Gross & Linda Chase
- Dec. 24 - NO COUNTERS
- Dec. 29 - Charlene Lundstrom & Vicki McAlister

USHERS/GREETERS for DECEMBER

- Dec. 1 – Gary Gross & Joe Geerts
- Dec. 8 – David Peterson & Terry Langston
- Dec. 15 – Greg Johnson & Linda Chase
- Dec. 22 – Vicki McAlister & Volunteer
- Dec. 24 – Bruce & Val Daniel
- Dec. 29 – Kirk Ketelsen

