

Calvary Courier

October 2024

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor,

¹⁸ Then [the crowd] all shouted out together, “Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!” ¹⁹ (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) ²⁰ Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; ²¹ but they kept shouting, “Crucify, crucify him!” ²² A third time he said to them, “Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.” ²³ But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. ²⁴ So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. ²⁵ He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished. (Luke 23:18-25)

As a student at Augustana, I took a literature class entitled, “Images of the Divine.” Among the books we read was the novel, *Barabbas*, by Swedish Nobel Prize-winning author Pär Lagerkvist. The book tells the fictional story of Barabbas after the crucifixion of Jesus. In my memory of the story (which is not necessarily supported by some of the reviews I’ve just looked up), Lagerkvist reflects on Barabbas as a man tormented by the knowledge that he, a guilty man, is alive because an innocent man, Jesus, has been crucified.

That juxtaposition of being undeservedly alive because someone else is dead, in some ways, haunted me as I read the novel. The guilt and the shame made so much sense to me. I could only imagine the anguish one would feel to know that someone had been intentionally executed in my place.

That, though, I think is exactly the perspective that those who shared the story of Jesus’ passion (like the version from Luke above) want their readers to understand. Unfortunately, we often overlook or downplay that perspective.

In truth, we are all Barabbas. All of us are guilty, I would suggest, of insurrection. All of us are guilty of fighting against God in one way or another. We all have failed to live according to God’s expectations. We all have denied, at one time or another, that God is in charge as we sought to do things our way. We are all Barabbas.

And for us, people who are guilty of rebelling against God, Jesus died. Jesus, the innocent one died in our place so that we may live.

Now, I don’t believe that Jesus’ intent here would be for us to live lives tormented by guilt as the character from the Lagerkvist novel did. Rather, Jesus wants us to live lives that honor his sacrifice for us. Jesus wants to live lives that reflect the compassion and love that he modeled for us in his crucifixion.

Jesus did indeed die for us as he did for Barabbas. Now we are called on to make the most of this gift of life through loving service to others.

In Christ,
Pastor Knowles



PASTOR WILL BE OUT OF THE OFFICE:

- **Wednesday, September 30 through October 2** - Pastor will be out of the office for Professional Leaders Conference.
- **Pastor will be on vacation October 9 through October 15** - which also corresponds with LOMC’s 50th anniversary.



Happy Birthday to:

- 1 – Brett Daniel
- 3 – Dylan James Gross,
- 6 – Jack Gross,
Ivy Miller
- 8 – Mike Mudd,
Matt Mudd
- 11 – Beverly Boyle
- 14 – Connie Langston
- 22 – Matthew Geerts
- 25 – Bruce Daniel
- 28 – Dick Jensen



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

❖ **From Tim & Margo Miller:** A heartfelt thank you to our Calvary Family for the prayers, cards, and phone calls. We appreciate you all. God is Good!

❖ **From QCAWC:** We would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation for your generous donation of canned kitten & cat food and dry Cat, kitten, and dog food. Thank you for support QCAWC and helping us continue our lifesaving work.

❖ **From Churches United:** Thank you for your continued support of the mission and ministries of Churches United. We have received your \$150.83 donation for Moline/East Moline Care Link. This enables us to keep helping those in need for rent and utility assistance for this area.

Happy Anniversary to:

- 15 – Tim & Margo Miller (1977)
- 27 – Peter & Sheila Doering (1973)
- 28 – Roger & Karen Thorsvold (1967)
- 30 – Steve & Kimmi Miller (2010)

WELCA Wednesday, October 2



WELCA will meet Wednesday, October 2 at 11:00 in the Upper Room. Bring a food item to share. Friends welcome. Volunteers for devotions welcome. WELCA will meet again in November to finish up the shoe boxes.

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.



KNIT – A- BIT HAS DISBANDED!

We are going to disband Knit-a-Bit, as there just isn't enough attending. People can continue to make hats for local kids and for Romania and drop them off at church.

ANN DONAHUE Has Moved

Her NEW ADDRESS is
New Perspective Apt. 261
1900 10th St,
Silvis, IL 61282



Cell phone: 309-797-8508

CALVARY CARETAKER CREW (CCC)

October 16

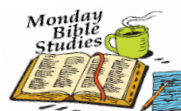
Wednesday October 16. CCC will meet at 9:00 to do some light cleaning around the church and yard work weather permitting. We work about an hour and then enjoy some food and fellowship. Everyone is welcome to join us.

OCTOBER DEADLINE Wednesday, October 16

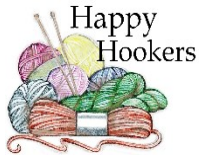


Please have your articles to me no later than October 16. You may email them, place them in my box or call the church office.

Monday Morning Bible Study October 21



Bible Study will begin on Monday, October 21 at 10:00 a.m. for Bible Study. We will meet in person in the Upper Room at Calvary, or you can participate via Zoom. Contact Pastor for the Zoom link.



HAPPY HOOKERS October 29

The Happy Hookers will be meeting on Wednesday, October 29 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.

CAFÉ ON VINE NOVEMBER 9

Looking ahead. We serve Cafe on Vine on November 9. A sign-up chart will go up in the narthex later this month, so watch for that. We will be looking for food and workers for this project.



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.

Discussion of “The False White Gospel” has just begun

In our first two meetings we have considered what Christian Nationalism is and begun to study a series of Scripture passages which proclaim the True Gospel for people of all colors. Jim Wallis has chosen six key texts which will remind us of the Truth on which we can build our faith, and which will guide us on the path where Jesus leads.

We meet on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. in Calvary’s Upper Room. You’re welcome to join our group. Call me if you need more information. (240) 993-9004

Thank you, Pastor Quentin Fleming



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Oh yes, I know Christmas is still a few months off, but...

Last year, we had such a great response in purchasing Christmas gifts for LSSI Moline foster children, we decided to do it again. This year, we are inviting St. James to participate as well.

If you would like to help with this Service project, there will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. In place of a gift, you may donate monetarily and LSSI will do the shopping for you.

Once we know how many would like to purchase gifts, we will forward the count to LSSI. They will put together a suggested list of children listing their age, gender and items that the children would like or need and send to Calvary. Teri will make copies of this list and you will be able to choose a child to shop for. Most items listed are valued at \$25 or less. If you would like more information, please see Ruth or Teri.

YOUTH HOPE FOOD PANTRY THANKSGIVING BASKETS



Calvary is once again collecting food for the Youth Hope Thanksgiving Baskets. The starred items are ones they are most in need of as September 25. We would like all items brought to church no later than November 17th.

HOLIDAY BASKETS

- **Boxed Stuffing
- **Cornbread/Biscuit Mix
- **Vegetable Oil
- **Boxed Potatoes (Mashed or Au Gratin)
- Cake/Brownie/Cookie Mix
- Canned Green Beans
- Canned Pumpkin
- Canned Cranberry Sauce
- Boxed Macaroni & Cheese
- Canned Sweet Potatoes/Yams
- Gravy Pouch or Jars

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 OCTOBER

Judi Ingerson & Sandy Ohrn

LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. for OCTOBER

- Oct. 6 – Renee Ketelsen (L & CA);
Sandy Ohrn (CA)
Oct. 13 – Val Daniel (L & CA);
Deb Faith (CA)
Oct. 20 – Paul Levesque (L & CA);
Dawn Levesque (CA)
Oct. 27 - Karla Kirkwood-Johnson (L)
Bruce Daniel & Gary Gross (CA)

BACK DOOR GREETERS for OCTOBER

- Oct.. 6 – Renee Ketelsen
Oct. 13 – Gary Gross
Oct. 20 – Linda Chase
Oct. 27 – Terry Langston

COUNTERS for OCTOBER

- Oct.. 6 – Charlene Lundstrom & Vicki McAlister
Oct. 13 – Paul Levesque & Barb Geerts
Oct. 20 – Deb Faith & Teri Griebel
Oct. 27 – Gary Gross & Terry Langston

USHERS/GREETERS for OCTOBER

- Oct.. 6 – Bruce & Val Daniel
Oct. 13 – Greg Johnson & Linda Chase
Oct. 20 – Joe Geerts & Gary Gross
Oct. 27 – Kirk Ketelsen

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. 14 – 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. 14 – Barb Geerts

COUNTERS for NOVEMBER

- Nov. 3 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston
Nov. 10 – Pam Gross & Linda Chase
Nov. 17 – Charlene Lundstrom & Vicki McAlister
Nov. 14 – 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. 14 – Paul Levesque & Barb Geerts

