

Calvary Courier

March 2025

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor

One of my favorite theatrical characters is Tevye, from *The Fiddler on the Roof*. My enchantment with Tevye stems from his relationship with God. While he certainly speaks with God with appropriate respect, he also is bold enough to approach God with a confidence that allows him to tell God exactly what is on his mind, even when he is experiencing hardships and distress. He does not shy away from complaining to God, even to the point of expressing frustration with God.

Such conversations with God are referred to as laments, and scripture is full of them.

I think as Christians, lamenting to God is often difficult. We have been conditioned to think that to share with God our frustrations and sorrows and disappointments, especially as they relate to God, is seen as a lack of faith. But the exact opposite is probably the case. Like Tevye, it takes a confident faith in the presence and love of God to speak out, trusting that God will be there to hear it and, recognizing our human limitations and failings, continue to love us.

During our midweek Lenten services this spring, we will take the opportunity to reflect on “lament.” Each week we will consider an aspect of laments, hear a scriptural lament, and take the opportunity to consider and/or offer our own laments to God.

I invite you to join me this lent in taking the opportunity to not just think about laments, but to take the time to actually lament, and lay in God’s hands your griefs, sorrows and questions about the ways of the world that don’t make sense to you.

The weekly topics for our worship services will be:

- March 12 – What is Lament?
- March 19 – “Little” Laments
- March 26 – Laments from the Depths
- April 2 – Individual Lament
- April 9 – Communal Lament

I look forward to sharing this time of reflection, prayer and lament with you.

In Christ,
Pastor Knowles

p.s. Please see the complete Lenten worship schedule elsewhere in this newsletter.



Happy Birthday to:

- 1 – Gisele Richardson
- 2 – Peter Doering
- 8 – Judi Ingerson
- 9 – Betty Clark
- 13 – Linda Chase

- 15 – Margo Miller, Randi Toft
- 17 – Ted Jackson
- 18 – Cindy Pham
- 25 – Pam Gross
- 27 – Laura Knipe

Happy Anniversary to:

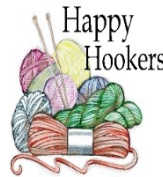
- 6 – Jack & Marilyn Gross (1954)
 - Bob & Charlene Lundstrom (1976)
- 19 – Dianna & Terry Kitchen (1983)

**HAPPY HOOKERS
February 26 and March 26**

The Happy Hookers will be meeting on February 26 and March 26 at 9:30 a.m.

In March, please only bring cookies to go with our coffee. We will be staying for Lenten lunch and service.

Everyone is welcome to join our fun group to enjoy our great fellowship and delicious snacks



**DAYLIGHT SAVING
TIME BEGINS**

On Saturday, March 8, Be sure and Change Your Clocks **AHEAD** one (1) hour before going to bed.



**APRIL NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
APRIL 18**

All articles for the April newsletter should be emailed to the church office or placed in my box by **Tuesday, March 18,** for distribution on Sunday, March 30.

Thank you to everyone who donated on Soupler Bowl Sunday. We collected **\$304.91** for Churches United food pantry.



We offer our sympathies and prayers to Richard Strosahl, family and friends on the passing of his son, Glen. He passed away on February 8, 2025. A memorial service will be held on Monday, February 17 at Esterdahl's. May you find refuge and comfort in our Lord, Jesus Christ



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

From Karen & Roger Thorsvold:

Thank you Happy Hookers for the beautiful Christmas card, quilts, treats, and cute Christmas ornament (thank you Teri). Also, thanks Val and Bruce for bringing the Christmas bag of goodies and for your visit. God Bless!

From Vicki McAlister:

Thank you for the prayers for my procedure and recovery. Thanks for the phone calls, texts, and cards with your support and good wishes. And, thanks to Debbie Faith for the special delivery Whiteys malts, a perfect comfort for recuperating from a tonsillectomy. Thank you everyone for your kindness.

From the VA:

On behalf of the Iowa City VAMC patients and staff, we would like to extend our appreciation to you for your donation of quilted blankets and lap warmers. It is through the efforts of community partners like you that all ow us to continue the quality care and services that we seek to provide for our deserving Veterans.

**CALVARY CARETAKER CREW –
March 19**

March 19 at 9:00 a.m. – All are welcome to come and do some light cleaning around the church and then enjoy food and fellowship.

EASTER CHOIR

Because Easter is so late this year, Choir will meet only on March 23 for a run through after worship in the sanctuary. The song I've picked is a repeat from two years ago – Our Lord Is Risen! – a simple 2-part piece. Rehearsals will begin April 6. If you would like to hear the song – please go to JW Pepper and search Our Lord Is Risen!



LENTEN SERVICES & LUNCHES

Services for Lent are as follows:

Midweek Services: Noon @ Calvary,
7:00 p.m. @ St. James

LENTEN LUNCHES – for MARCH

Thank you to those who have signed up to serve Lenten Lunches during March. They are:

March 12: Linda Grace & Sandy Ohrn

March 19: Charlene Lundstrom &
Connie Langston

March 26: Judy Noftsker & Renee Ketelsen

JOINT SERVICE and LUNCH – MARCH 30

On March 30, St. James will be joining us for worship. Following the service, we are having a sandwich and salad lunch in Erlander Hall. All are welcome. Meal is provided by Thrivent Financial.



TED JACKSON – TURNS 90 MARCH 17

We would like to give Ted Jackson, a card shower for his birthday. Please mail your card to:

TED JACKSON 35755 DETROIT RD – APT 1305
AVON, OH 44011



WELCA BASEMENT SALE
Friday, April 4 from
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday, April 5 from
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Still can use more of your goodies to sell – Keep looking! Bring to church and put in basement room. Anything sells – books, games, small appliances, radios, jewelry, toys, records, CD's. Dishes, cups, glasses – kitchen utensils, linens, crafts, decorations, furniture, tools, camping equipment. You find it – We'll sell it!

SCHEDULE FOR SETTING UP & PRICING

Sort & Price:

Wednesday, March 12 – 1 p.m. to ?

Monday, March 24 – 11 a.m. to ?

Table Set-up: - Sunday, March 30

Pricing: Monday, March 31 through April 3rd.

If you have questions, please contact Sandy Ohrn – 309-373-8261 or Charlene Lundstrom 309-235-3245.

REGARDING BASEMENT SALE LUNCH

Lunch will be served at the basement sale on Friday, April 4. We are beginning our request for desserts for the Basement Sale. Everything is welcomed, but we will need pies – as they go very fast. If you would like to help defray the cost of the food we provide, please make checks payable to WELCA and place in the offering plate. Thank you – Connie Langston

MARK YOU CALENDARS!



We are serving at Café on Vine on Saturday, April 12. Watch for the sign-up board in the narthex later this month for food donations and helpers.

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

A special council meeting was held after the annual meeting on January 26 for newly elected members and to elect officers for the coming year. New council members are Renee Ketelsen (taking over for Kirk), Greg Johnson and Ann Lundstrom.

OUR ELECTED COUNCIL OFFICERS for 2025:

President – Gary Gross

Vice President – Linda Chase

Secretary – Paul Levesque

Treasurer – Pam Gross.

Council meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. in the Library downstairs.



2025 Water Filter Drive for families in Romania and Guatemala

This year we will be collecting monetary donations which will go toward buying water filters and Bibles for families in Romania and Guatemala. Our drive will run April through mid-June. More information will be in the April newsletter. And, thank you for your past support.



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 ALTAR GUILD for MARCH

Bruce & Val Daniel

LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. MARCH

- March 2 – Val Daniel (L & CA);
Bruce Daniel (CA)
March 9 – Joe Geerts (L);
Gary Gross (CA)
March 16 – Judi Ingerson (L); Paul Levesque &
Terry Langston (CA)
March 23 – Renee Ketelsen (L & CA);
Connie Langston (CA)
March 30 – Sandy Ohrn (L & CA);
Sheila Doering (CA)

BACK DOOR GREETERS for MARCH

- March 2 – Connie Langston
March 9 – Renee Ketelsen
March 16 – Sandy Ohrn
March 23 – Terry Langston
March 30 – Pam Gross

COUNTERS for MARCH

- March 2 – Gary Gross & Terry Langston
March 9 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston
March 16 – Pam Gross & Linda Chase
March 23 – Charlene Lundstrom & Vicki McAlister
March 30 – Paul Levesque & Barb Geerts

USHERS/GREETERS for MARCH

- March 2 – Kirk Ketelsen
March 9 – David Peterson & Terry Langston
March 16 – Vicki McAlister & Volunteer
March 23 – Bruce & Val Daniel
March 30 – Greg Johnson & Linda Chase

ALTAR GUILD for APRIL

Barb Geerts and Connie Langston

LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. APRIL

- April 6 – Judy Ingerson (L);
Connie & Terry Langston (CA)
April 13 – Paul Levesque (L & CA);
Dawn Levesque (CA)
April 20 – Karla Kirkwood-Johnson (L);
Joe Geerts & Gary Gross (CA)
April 27 – Jacki Dooley (L);
Val & Bruce Daniel (CA)

BACK DOOR GREETERS for APRIL

- April 6 – Barb Geerts
April 13 – Dawn Levesque
April 20 – Linda Chase
April 27 – Connie Langston

COUNTERS for APRIL

- April 6 – Deb Faith & Teri Griebel
April 13 – Gary Gross & Terry Langston
April 20 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston
April 27 – Terry Langston

USHERS/GREETERS for APRIL

- April 6 – Joe Geerts & Gary Gross
April 13 – Kirk Ketelsen
April 20 – David Peterson & Terry Langston
April 27 – Vicki McAlister & Volunteer

**REMINDER:
APRIL 20 IS EASTER SUNDAY**