

Calvary Courier

October 2025

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor,

As I write this letter it is early September. I am hoping, that by the time you read it in late September or early October the Cubs will still be playing games that are meaningful instead of just running out the schedule. That is, after all, what has been behind the numerous player personnel decisions they have made over the last several years.

As with any professional sports organization, the Cubs have been in a period of “rebuilding.” What that means is that they made decisions with an eye to the future, not necessarily immediate, success. Sometimes they have traded or not signed many of their stars, the one or two players who excel at the game, in order to recruit young talent who will help the team win in two or three or four years down the road. In essence, they sacrifice their current talent for the possibility of long term, sustained, success.

Perhaps it would be helpful for us to see ourselves in a period of rebuilding. As existing congregations, we have had a good run. For Calvary (over the past 106 years) and St. James (for 72 years), we have had full Sunday School classes, large confirmation classes, active youth groups, multiple WELCA circles, wonderful choirs, full services and more. It has been good.

But times and situations have changed. And so now would be an appropriate time for us consider a “rebuilding” stage.

Being in a rebuilding stage means we need to look to the future. We need to be willing to let go of the things that might have been successful for us in the past in order to make room the new things that will help us in the future. We need to be willing to consider new ways of being the people of God in our communities. We need to be willing to see the world as it is and not the way it has been, and consider new ways to effectively share the love of God in this new world.

Rebuilding is never easy and it is often painful. It takes time. It requires patience because results are rarely immediate. But is necessary if we intend to be faithful proclaimers of the word of God throughout the next decade and beyond.

We have begun that process in our discussions of our relationship between St. James and Calvary as well as the work being done with the six other ELCA congregations in Rock Island and Moline. Please continue to pray for our work together and be open to a future that may look very different from our present.

In Christ,

Pastor Knowles



FALL FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11

FROM 10 AM TO 4 PM.

LOMC is having their Fall Festival. There will be plenty of things to do.

Please see the flyer on page 5 of the newsletter.



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

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 1

WELCA will meet Wednesday, October 1 at 11:00 in the Upper Room. Bring a food item to share. Friends welcome. Volunteers for devotions welcome.



NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE OCTOBER 14

Please have your articles to me no later than October 14. You may email them, place them in my box or call the church office. The newsletter will be in your box Sunday, October 26.

CCC – CALVARY CARE CREW OCTOBER 15

Calvary Caretaker Crew (CCC) will meet Wednesday October 15 at 9:00. All are welcome to come and do some light cleaning and yard work if weather permits. We will have treats and fellowship after finishing up. Any questions see Gary or Pam Gross.

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



We offer our sympathies and prayers to Pam Gross and Barb Geerts. Their nephew, Jon Pham, passed away on Friday, September 19. Funeral services will be held at Esterdahl's on Saturday, September 27 at 10:30 a.m. with visitation on Friday, September 26 from 5 – 7 p.m. 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 Habitat – Komlan, Adjo** – We are deeply grateful for the incredible work and dedication you put into building our home through Habitat for Humanity. Your kindness and commitment have give us a safe and loving place to call home, and we will forever cherish this gift. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for making our dream a reality.

❖ **from Quad City Animal Welfare** – We would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation for your generous donation of Dry dog food, dry cat food, and canned cat food. Your contribution will directly benefit our shelter animals. Thank you for supporting QCAWC and helping us continue our lifesaving work.

❖ **from YouthHope** – Thank you for your generous support of \$205 to YouthHope, because of your partnership, we are able to passionately and persistently pursue at-risk kids and teens through authentic relationships, all with the purpose of leading them to Jesus. Thank you for being a part of this vital mission. Please continue to pray for the kids and teens we serve and for our team as we remain on the front lines, sharing Jesus with the next generation. Together, we are making an eternal difference.



ST. JAMES – CAFÉ WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY OCTOBER 18

A newly formed Café Women's Bible Study Group will meet on the 3rd Saturdays of the month, starting October 18 @ 10:30 am. Anyone interested, should RSVP to: Rhea Frank: rheacottingham@gmail.com



MERRY CHRISTMAS

I know – I know – *IT'S NOT Christmas – YET!*

Granted we have a couple months to go, but look how fast September flew by. I don't know about y'all but it seems as if each year gets a little faster.

We have had such a great response in purchasing Christmas gifts for LSSI Moline foster children, we are doing it again this year; with the help of St. James.

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.

This Year – each child will have a tag with their number, age and list of items; including clothing sizes. Once done shopping, please place your tag with your items and return to church. Most items listed are valued at \$25 or less. If you would like more information, please see Teri Griebel or Charlene Lundstrom.

UPCOMING NOVEMBER EVENTS

CAFÉ ON VINE NOVEMBER 8

Looking ahead. We serve Cafe on Vine on November 8. 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.

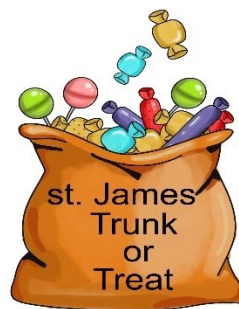


MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

JOINT WORSHIP AT ST. JAMES

On NOVEMBER 30 at 10:30 a.m.

Calvary will worship at St. James on November 30. This will be a service of all 3 churches – Calvary, St. James and All Saints Episcopal.



ST. JAMES TRUNK OR TREAT

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

Trunk or Treat October 26th - Anyone willing to participate contact Rhea Frank-Cottingham, 309-781-8546. Specific details to follow.

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 Ushers.

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



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



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.

Sandy Ohrn & Pam Ohrn

REVISED - LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. for OCTOBER

Oct. 5 – Gary Gross (L & CA);
Joe Geerts (CA)
Oct. 12 – Gordon Nelson (L);
Deb Faith & Sandy Ohrn (CA)
Oct. 19 – Paul Levesque (L & CA);
Dawn Levesque (CA)
Oct. 26– Sandy Ohrn (L & CA)
Sheila Doering (CA)

BACK DOOR GREETERS for OCTOBER

Oct. 5 – Jacki Dooley
Oct. 12 – Gary Gross
Oct. 19 – Dawn Levesque
Oct. 26– Vicki McAlister

COUNTERS for OCTOBER

Oct. 5 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston
Oct. 12 – Pam Gross & Linda Chase
Oct. 19 – Paul Levesque & Barb Geerts
Oct. 26– Pam Gary Gross & Terry Langston

REVISED - USHERS/GREETERS for OCTOBER

Oct. 5 – David Peterson & Terry Langston
Oct. 12 – Vicki McAlister & Volunteer
Oct. 19 – **Kirk Ketelsen**
Oct. 26– Greg Johnson & Linda Chase

ALTAR GUILD for NOVEMBER.

Judi Ingerson and Linda Grace

LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. for NOVEMBER

Nov. 2 – Judi Ingerson (L);
Connie & Terry Langston (CA)
Nov. 9– Karla Kirkwood-Johnson (L);
Joe Geerts & Gary Gross (CA)
Nov. 16 – Barb Geerts (L);
Val & Bruce Daniel (CA)
Nov. 23– Renee Ketelsen (L & CA)
Sheila Doering (CA)
NOV. 30 – SERVICE AT ST. JAMES (10:30 AM)

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Nov. 9 – Pam Gross
Nov. 16 – Linda Chase
Nov. 23– Vicki McAlister
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Nov. 9 – Gary Gross & Joe Geerts
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Nov. 9 – Kirk Ketelsen
Nov. 16 – David Peterson & Terry Langston
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AUTUMN FEST 2025

Saturday, October 11th

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Autumn Fest

Make plans to join us for Autumn Fest on Saturday, October 11!

It will be a day of fun at camp including Pumpkin Carving, Cider Pressing, Crafts, Wagon Rides, Hikes, Campfire S'mores, and a "Taste of Camp".

When you arrive...

Parking will be available in and around the Admin Building parking lot, with clear markers.



The Tent and Trailer pavilion will serve as the main location for Autumn Fest this year, with activities additionally at the Program Center, Archery, the Swanson Prairie, and elsewhere.

The Dining Hall will serve as the inclement weather backup.

Schedule

10am – 3pm: Activities: Pumpkin Carving, Cider Pressing, Crafts, Wagon Rides, Hikes, Campfire S'mores, and a "Taste of Camp".

11am – 1pm: Lunch available for purchase (\$10)

3pm: Closing Worship



As I had an extra page – decided to include two puzzles. We have not had them in the newsletter for quite some time. Hope you enjoy these.



JESUS TRAVELED TO MANY PLACES

Jesus traveled to many regions, cities, towns and villages to preach the Good News. In the puzzle below, find and circle the names of some of the places. Can you find the names on the list?

Words can go left to right, up, down or diagonal—so look carefully in all directions!

BETHANY	EPHRAIM	MOUNT OF OLIVES
BETHLEHEM	GALILEE	NAZARETH
BETHSAIDA	JERICHO	PEREA
CAESAREA PHILIPPI	JERUSALEM	SAMARIA
CANA	JORDAN RIVER	SIDON
CAPERNAUM	JUDEA	TYRE
DECAPOLIS	MAGDALA	WILDERNESS
EGYPT		

B	M	L	E	T	C	U	S	G	O	T	O	B	T	H	E
E	J	O	R	D	A	N	R	I	V	E	R	E	M	N	S
T	U	E	U	E	N	A	R	B	Y	V	I	T	A	L	S
H	D	L	R	N	A	Z	A	R	E	T	H	H	G	A	E
S	E	G	E	I	T	S	S	S	G	Y	O	L	D	I	N
A	A	C	J	A	C	O	N	I	Y	R	P	E	A	R	R
I	D	E	E	A	C	H	F	D	P	E	H	H	L	T	E
D	E	H	R	E	R	E	O	O	T	A	L	E	A	S	D
A	C	O	U	T	H	P	A	N	L	T	I	M	S	W	L
C	A	E	S	A	R	E	A	P	H	I	L	I	P	P	I
H	P	P	A	A	Y	R	I	H	A	V	V	E	C	O	W
M	O	H	L	E	M	E	S	O	H	E	T	E	R	A	V
E	L	R	E	L	E	A	D	T	H	R	O	U	S	G	H
O	I	A	M	U	T	G	R	A	B	E	T	H	A	N	Y
L	S	I	I	L	G	A	L	I	L	E	E	E	E	F	R
O	M	M	C	A	P	E	R	N	A	U	M	M	A	R	K



God has made everything
Beautiful

As God's special creations, people should take every opportunity to appreciate all that He has made.

Use the words in the box below to complete this puzzle. Then match the number for the word to the blank below to finish Psalm 104:24, NIV.

WORD BOX

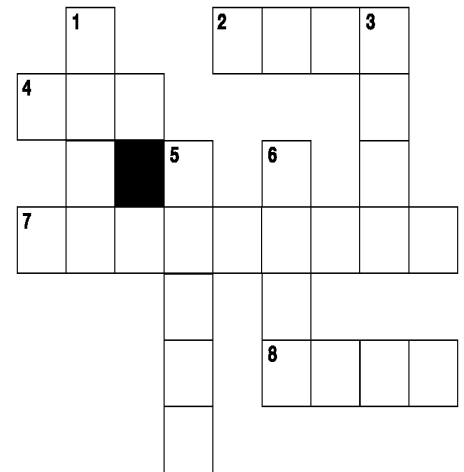
CREATURES EARTH
THEM MADE HOW
LORD YOUR FULL

ACROSS

- Rhymes with gem.
- Rhymes with cow.
- Rhymes with features.
- Rhymes with cord.

DOWN

- Rhymes with pour.
- Rhymes with fade.
- Rhymes with worth.
- Rhymes with pull.



"_____ many are _____ works, O _____!"
4 1 8

In wisdom you _____ all;
3 2

the _____ is _____ of your _____."
5 6 7

Psalm 104:24, NIV

Answers: "How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures." Psalm 104:24, NIV