



# *Calvary Courier*

*May 2026*

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor

As I sat in worship a few weeks ago, I gazed out at the congregation. From my vantage point I could see everyone in attendance. And as I considered the people in front of me, I was amazed. Gathered there in the sanctuary I took note, not just of the individuals, but also of the various roles that were being filled by those people.

There was a lector, communion assistants, ushers, greeters, offering counters, attendance takers, a treasurer, council members, people who set up/clean up for communion and care for the altar and hang banners, someone to control the sound system and manage the video cameras so that the service can be livestreamed, quilters, organizers of after-worship coffee and fellowship, Sunday School teachers, people who prepare food for the disadvantaged, committee members, people who change light bulbs or fix malfunctioning toilets, tend to boilers and air conditioners, plant flowers, and more. And alongside all these folks are the people who faithfully and regularly attend worship.

And what left me in awe as I scanned the sanctuary at all these people was that each and every one of them – of you – are volunteers. None of you are being paid to usher or run a camera or help with communion or anything else. You all are there, committing your time and energy because you choose to. You are there preparing food and setting up the altar and counting offerings and serving on council because you have a sense of the mission of the congregation. You are there because of your love of God and commitment to sharing the gospel.

As I sat in my seat looking out at the faces in the sanctuary, I was overwhelmed with a sense of gratitude for all that you choose to do for the sake of the ministries of St. James and Calvary. And I thanked God for you and your work and presence in our fellowship.

Please know that each and every one of you is appreciated.

In Christ,

*Pastor Knowles*



Pastor Knowles will be on vacation from April 23 through April 29. He will also be gone May 4<sup>th</sup> through May 10<sup>th</sup>. If you would need pastoral care please contact Pastor Daniel Witkowski at First Lutheran Church Moline 309-764-3517.



**Happy Birthday to:**

- 2 – Kirk Ketelsen
- 6 – Teri Griebel
- 9 – David Peterson

- 18 – Candice Tennison
- 23 – Dereck Chase
- 27 – Patricia Cornelius
- 28 – LaVerne Knipe
- 30 – Linda Grace

**Happy Anniversary to:**

- 4 – Robert & Linda Miner (1963)
- 24 – Gary & Pam Gross (1980)
- 25 – Jerry & Pat Cornelius (1968)
  - Bruce & Val Daniel (1974)
- 28 – Randy & Ann Bowser (1973)



**RIM CHOIR  
NEED TO KNOW BY  
APRIL 26**

If you are interested in participating in the joint RIM Choir performing at Augustana on May 31, 2026 at 10:30 am, please let Renee Ketelesen know by April 26<sup>th</sup>. The anthem selection for that day is “If We Sing At All: by Stan Pethel. Copies are available. Pam Edward’s will be directing. More details to come.

**GRADUATE RECOGNITION**

If you have a member of your family graduating this year, please email me or send me the information and I will highlight in the June/July newsletter.



**WELCA NEWS...**

**Meeting – Wednesday, May 6 at 11:00 a.m.** Please bring a snack to share.



**HAPPY HOOKERS – May 27**



Happy Hookers will meet at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 27. There is plenty of things to do without sewing a stitch. Come and join us for laughter, food and great fellowship.



**We offer our sympathies and prayers** to the friends of Marianne Barnett who passed away on Friday, April 17. Arrangements are pending at Esterdahls. May you find refuge and comfort in our Lord Jesus Christ.



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

❖ **from Churches United** - Thank you for your continued support of the mission and ministries of Churches United. We have received your \$165 donation to Moline CareLink. This enables us to keep helping those needing rent and utility assistance in this area. We are seeing an increase in calls, so the need for this ministry is still great.

❖ **from Thrivent** – Congratulations! In 2025 Calvary Lutheran Church received \$949 through the Thrivent Choice program. Your work strengthens communities, and we’re grateful for the impact you make every day.

❖ **from LOMC** - Thank you for donating \$240 to LOMC’s ministry of helping guests of all ages connect with God and each other. Your gift makes all the difference in helping LOMC thrive.

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**THANK YOU PENNY & GREG FOR PLAYING ON EASTER**



A Big Thank you goes to both Penny Rhomberg on organ and Greg Johnson on trumpet for their Easter prelude on Easter Sunday. Thanks for putting in the extra hours of practice. – it was Wonderful!



**MARY KNOWLES THANK YOU  
MAY 17 – DURING COFFEE**

**On May 17** Calvary is planning a Thank You to Mary Knowles during coffee time. We want to recognize Mary for the many years she has accompanied the congregation during our worship services. Her last service was March 15.

## WELCOME TO RYAN BANEC

Ryan is our new part-time organist. He will be playing on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays on the month.

Penny Rhomberg, our other part-time organist, will be playing on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month.

The Prazin Hymn Trio will be playing on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month.

# *A Joint RIM Celebration Holy Trinity Sunday May 31, 2026*



*The ELCA Congregations of Rock  
Island and Moline will join in worship  
in  
Centennial Hall at Augustana College  
at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 31,  
2026.*

*Please join in this festival worship.*

*A time of fellowship and refreshments will precede the  
service at 9:00 a.m. in the Centennial Hall lobby.*

## JUNE/JULY COMBINED NEWSLETTER Deadline – Tuesday, May 12



As Calvary will be closed on May 31, I have backed up the deadline to May 12. The newsletter will be in your boxes on May 24.



## HABITAT LUNCH

We will be serving a Habitat for Humanity lunch to about eight (8) workers on Wednesday, May 13 at 424 East 15th Street, Davenport. If you are interested in serving or need additional information, please reach out to me. Thanks, Val Daniel

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

## CALVARY CARETAKER CREW – May 20

CCC will meet at 9:00 on Wednesday May 20. All are welcome to come and work around the church cleaning or doing yard work. We will have fellowship and treats following our work.



## 2026 Shoe Drive for Kids in Romania and Guatemala

Thank you all who have contributed to the shoe campaign. The kids that ACF supports in Romania and Guatemala typically get one pair of new shoes each year. Our contributions are very much appreciated. I will provide totals of shoes and dollars contributed in a future newsletter. Thanks again for your support. Greg Johnson (309-236-3394)

# HAPPY Mother's Day



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 MAY**

Judi Ingerson & Linda Grace

**LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. MAY**

- May 3 – Judi Ingerson (L)  
Joe Geerts & Gary Gross (CA)
- May 10 – Deb Faith (L & CA);  
Renee Ketelsen (CA)
- May 17 – Linda Chase (L) ;  
Connie & Terry Langsotn (CA)
- May 24 – Karla Kirkwood-Johnson (L);  
Sandy Ohrn & Sheila Doering (CA)
- May 31 – **SERVICE AT CENTENNIAL HALL**

**BACK DOOR GREETERS for MAY**

- May 3 – Linda Chase
- May 10 – Joe Geerts
- May 17 – Deb Faith
- May 24 – Gary Gross
- May 31 – **SERVICE AT CENTENNIAL HALL**

**COUNTERS for MAY**

- May 3 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston
- May 10 – Pam Gross & Linda Chase
- May 17 – Deb Faith & Teri Griebel
- May 24 – Charlene Lundstrom & Vicki McAlister
- May 31 – **SERVICE AT CENTENNIAL HALL**

**USHERS/GREETERS for MAY**

- May 3 – David Peterson & Terry Langsotn
- May 10 – Vicki McAlister
- May 17 – Bruce & Val Daniel
- May 24 – Greg Johnson & Linda Chase
- May 31 - **SERVICE AT CENTENNIAL HALL**

**ALTAR GUILD for JUNE**

Judi Ingerson & Linda Grace

**LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. JUNE**

- June 7 – Jacki Dooley (L)  
Connie & Terry Langston (CA)
- June 14 – Renee Ketelsen (L & CA)  
Val Daniel (CA)
- June 21– Joe Geerts (L & CA)  
Gary Gross (CA)
- June 28 – Paul Levesque (L & CA);  
Dawn Levesque (CA)

**BACK DOOR GREETERS for JUNE**

- June 7 – Vicki McAlister
- June 14 – Jacki Dooley
- June 21– Barb Geerts
- June 28 – Dawn Levesque

**COUNTERS for JUNE**

- June 7 – Gary Gross & Terry Langstson
- June 14 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston
- June 21– Pam Gross & Linda Chase
- June 28 – Charlene Lundstrom & Vicki McAlister

**USHERS/GREETERS for JUNE**

- June 7 – Kirk Ketelsen
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