



Calvary Courier

June/July 2026

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church, Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor

Mary and I recently returned from a vacation to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The occasion that brought us there was the 200th anniversary of the seminary from which I graduated. However, as many of you know, we don't need much of reason to return to Gettysburg. We visit about every other year. And with each visit, it seems that we learn something new about Gettysburg.

I want to note, at this point, that the Battle of Gettysburg, which was fought throughout the town from July 1-3, 1863, marked a turning point in the Civil War. It could be argued that the Confederacy lost the war on that battlefield, even though the war itself lingered on for another two years.

This year I paid more attention than I have in the past to the Gettysburg National Cemetery. The cemetery is the site where 3,512 Union soldiers from the 1863 battle are buried (plus veterans from the Spanish-American War through Viet Nam). It is also, of course, the site where Abraham Lincoln spoke a few words in dedication of the cemetery on November 19, 1863 in what has become known as the Gettysburg Address.

Many of the dead from the battle are laid to rest beneath a simple grave marker listing their name, regiment and state. But, alongside these markers and in a dedicated section of the cemetery, are markers with nothing on them. These markers represent the nearly 1,000 Union soldiers who remain unknown. They died anonymously in defense of their country. Even so, their effort helped to save the nation.

After walking through the cemetery this year, I could not help but reflect on those unknown soldiers. They will never have their name

engraved on a plaque or monument. Their names will not be recorded in history books. And yet they served with valor and honor and "gave the last full measure of devotion." They will never be personally recognized for their contribution in saving the nation.

As I reflected on those unknown, unnamed soldiers buried in the hallow ground of the Gettysburg National Cemetery, I thought about the countless members of Christian churches throughout the world who make great and small contributions to spreading the love of God. Many, probably most, will never be recognized with a plaque or a monument. They will serve anonymously. And yet, their work will contribute to world-changing ministries.

Perhaps you are among those who are among the "unknown" Christians who faithfully serve God without special recognition. Please know that while your name may never appear on a plaque, your ministry is important and you are appreciated. Your devotion changes lives.

Thank you.

In Christ,
Pastor Knowles



WORSHIP – SUNDAY, MAY 31

AT 10:00 A.M.

AUGUSTANA CENTENNIAL HALL

On Holy Trinity Sunday, May 31, the ELCA Congregations of Rock Island and Moline will join in worship in Centennial Hall at Augustana college at 10:00 am. 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.



Happy Birthday to:

- 1 – Brad Gross
- 7 – Nathan Faith
- 8 – Wyatt Bunch
- 9 – Jerry Cornelius

- 17 – Aaron Ohrn
- 18 – Olivia Bunch
- 21 – Heather Kitchen
- 23 – Connie Dudgen

Happy Anniversary to:

- 4 – Mark & Marena Jackson (1994)
- 8 – Dean & Linda Chase (1996)



GRADUATE RECOGNITION

The following is a list of graduates and their plans for the future:

★ **Clay Gerrans**, grandson of Karen & Roger Thorsvold, graduated May 9th from University of Wisconsin-Madison with a Bachelor of Arts in both Journalism and Economics. Clay will attend University of California, College of Law, San Francisco, CA this fall.

★ **Derek DeCola**, grandson of Karen & Roger Thorsvold, will graduate July 20th from Marietta College, Marietta, OH with a Master’s Degree in Physician Assistant Studies.

WELCA LUNCH - JUNE 3 – AT 11:30 A.M.

RIVERFRONT GRILL, RI

****OFFICE WILL CLOSE AT 11A.M.****



On **Wednesday, June 3 at 11:30 a.m.** at **Riverfront Grill, 4619 34th Street, Rock Island** will be our WELCA lunch. All Ladies from both Calvary and St. James are welcome to attend. Reservations are not required!

However, we are asking if you could call the church office, 309-762-5423, as we would like to have a rough estimate on how many may attend. This is our last gathering until we meet in September.



NO JUNE EXERCISE

Faithful Flexors Faithful Flexors will not meet in June, as I will be gone up north. Classes will resume in July. Please watch the announcements for more information. Sandy Ohrn



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

❖ **from Mary Knowles** - Thank you so much to Calvary members and friends who were so gracious to me last week! The cards, gifts, and many kind words made me feel very cherished.

❖ **Greg Johnson, for Another Child Foundation** 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, and they are thrilled when they receive a new pair. Contributions at St. James totaled \$489.00. Contributions at Calvary totaled \$480.00 plus nine pairs of shoes. Thanks again for your support.

❖ **from YouthHope** – Thank you for your generous support of YouthHope in the amount of \$205. 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.



**MARK YOU CALENDARS!
CAFÉ ON VINE – JUNE 20**

We are scheduled to serve on June 20. A sign-up board has been placed in the narthex for food donations and workers. Please help and donate what you can for this event. We will also be serving again on **November 7**.

HAPPY HOOKERS – June 24 and July 29

Happy Hookers will meet at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 24 and on July 29. Come and join us for laughter, food and great fellowship.



NEW ADDRESSES:

Please change your directory for:



Bruce and Val Daniel - moved to:

2350 1ST ST A DRIVE – UNIT 2
MOLINE IL 61265

Ann Lundstrom – moved to:

NEW PERSPECTIVE – APT 308
1900 10th STREET
SILVIS, IL 61282



Happy Birthday to:

- 1 – LeRoy Freeze
- 7 – Terry Langston
- 12 – Tim Miller
- 15 – Tim L. Miller
- 16 – Mary Ann Behrens

- 18 – Steve Miller
- 23 – Roger Thorsvold
- 24 – Dean Chase
- 27 – Jeremiah Griebel
- 31 – Dianna Kitchen

Happy Anniversary to:

- 4 – Gordon & Linda Nelson (1970)
- 14 – LeRoy & Fran Freeze (1956)

**CALVARY CARETAKER CREW (CCC)
WEDNESDAY, JULY 15**

CCC will NOT meet in June but will meet in July on Wednesday, July 15 at 9:00 a.m. Come and join us to do some light cleaning and/or yard work. After working for an hour or so we will enjoy food and fellowship.

MOWING HELP

Looking for **HELP** with mowing church lawns. Contact Gary Gross or Joe Geerts about scheduling and access to mowers. Thanks, Gary Gross



VACATION



Pastor Knowles will be on vacation beginning July 9 through July 22.

AUGUST DEADLINE - July 14

Please have your articles to me no later than July 14th. You may email them, place them in my box or call the church office.



COLLECTING PET FOOD FOR JULY & AUGUST



PET FOOD COLLECTION

The Service Committee will be collecting pet food for our 4-legged friends to donate to QCAWC in Milan for the month of July & August. They really need wet and dry kitten food, Purina Fancy Feast wet and Kitten dry as they have a lot of kittens to care for; along with Purina Cat Chow and Purina Dog Chow. We will have a table set up in the narthex We will also be accepting monetary donations. Organizer is Bruce & Val Daniel.

**BLOOD DRIVE – JULY 14
FROM 3:00 – 6:00 P.M.**



SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

This drive will be held at Salem Lutheran, 1724 15th St. in Moline. We are being joined with some of the other RIM churches. You can go online at Impact Life to make your appointment, scan the QR code on the poster or contact Pam Gross. Our goal is 20 donations.

**WELCA PROJECT FOR
SUMMER/ FALL**



At the May meeting, we decided to help THE THRID PLACE QC (a daytime homeless shelter) in Rock Islnad that does NOT provide food; though they do provide coffee and snacks; plus a place to relax, socialize and get warm or cool depending on the time of the year..

HABITAT LUNCH - JULY 15

We will be serving a Habitat Lunch on July 15. Please watch the announcements for more information. The organizer for this event is Bruce & Val Daniel.



For those of you that go to Yard Sales over the summer, they are looking for small tents and backpacks. Please do not spend a lot of money, but if you find something you would like to donate, you may bring your items to church and store downstairs in one of the Sunday school rooms. Just be sure and let the office know, so in the fall we can deliver them.

Beginning in September, we will go over a list of items they are in need of and will be asking church members to help with donations.



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 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 – Pam Gross
 June 14 – Jacki Dooley
 June 21– Barb Geerts
 June 28 – Dawn Levesque

COUNTERS for JUNE

June 7 – Gary Gross & Terry Langston
 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
 June 14 – David Peterson & Terry Langston
 June 21– Vicki McAlister
 June 28 – Bruce & Val Daniel

ALTAR GUILD for JULY

TO BE ANNOUNCED

LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. JULY

July 5 – Gary Gross (L& CA);
 Terry Langston (CA)
 July 12 – Linda Chases (L);
 Deb Faith & Sheila Doering (CA)
 July 19 – Barb Geerts (L);
 Joe Geerts & Bruce Daniel (CA)
 July 26– Sandy Ohrn (L & CA)
 Val Daniel (CA)

BACK DOOR GREETERS for JULY

July 5 – Terry Langston
 July 12 – Deb Faith
 July 19 – Gary Gross
 July 26– Linda Chase

COUNTERS for JULY

July 5 – Paul Levesque & Barb Geerts
 July 12 – Deb Faith & Teri Griebel
 July 19 – Gary Gross & Terry Langston
 July 26– Greg Johnson & Connie Langston

USHERS/GREETERS for JULY

July 5 – Greg Johnson & Linda Chase
 July 12 – Joe Geerts & Gary Gross
 July 19 – Kirk Ketelsen
 July 26– David Peterson & Terry Langston

