

Calvary Courier

November 2026

A Publication of Calvary Lutheran Church Moline, Illinois

From the Pastor

I have been a regular worshiper all my life. And throughout all those years there came to be one Sunday every year that I absolutely hated being in church. It was called ***Stewardship Sunday***. In the congregation where I grew up, Stewardship Sunday came to mean just one thing to me – money. And what was worse, was that the implication from all the money-talk was that there was never enough money. The bottom line of Stewardship Sunday was "Give more!"

As a result of that (negative) experience, I have always been reluctant to designate a "Stewardship Sunday" in the congregations where I served. The whole idea just leaves a bad taste in my mouth. And here's why….

I don't believe stewardship is exclusively, or even mostly, about money. Stewardship, instead, is foremost about our relationship with God.

First, Christian stewardship recognizes that everything we have and everything we are comes from God. God has granted us our bodies, minds and spirits. God has provided for us our family and friends, our food and clothing, our homes, our work, our play. This world and everything in it has come from God and belongs to God.

Second, recognizing that everything we have is from God, Christian stewardship calls on God's children to take care of what God has given us. That is what a steward literally is…a caretaker. God has entrusted us with his good creation and asks us to care for it.

Third, Christian stewardship understands that we ought to respond to God's goodness with thanksgiving. How do we thank God for all that he has given us: ourselves, our time, our possessions and our salvation through the cross of Christ? We thank God by giving back to God that which God has first given us. We return to God our thanks in the form of our time and our talents and our resources.

So, our offerings represent our thankfulness to God.

What we put in our offering envelope is not given in order to meet the church budget. The motivation for our pledge is not keeping the lights on or paying salaries. Our offerings are, instead, our way of saying "Thank you God for all you do for me."

And so I encourage you to consider all of God's good gifts for you, including the gift of his son's life for the forgiveness of your sins. Then prayerfully consider how you wish to thank God.

In Christ,

Pastor Knowles

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

will be held on Tuesday, November 24, at 7:00 pm, at Saint George Greek Orthodox Church. Address is 2930 31st Avenue, Rock Island.

DECEMBER EVENTS

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

December 13 – Pastor's Retirement Celebration. Catered Lunch will be served after worship at 11:30 am. Everyone is invited.

December 20 – Calvary's church service will be at **8:30 a.m.** Pastor will be at St. James at 10:30 a.m. so they may celebrate Pastor's retirement.

December 27 – Pastor's last Sunday to preach.



Happy Birthday to:

4 – Barb Geerts
11 – Allen Noftsker
12 - Viola Marie Bowser-Smith
13 – Paul Levesque
20 – Sharon Hough, Ann Lundstrom,
24 – Annette Menke, Karyn Hurst
27 – Richard Strosahl

Happy Anniversary to:

1 – Teri & Dave Griebel (1974)
15 – Barb & Joe Geerts (1980)



DAYLIGHT SAVING ENDS NOVEMBER 1

It's That Time of Year Again to "**FALL BACK**" on **NOVEMBER 1st.** Please remember to turn your clocks back 1 hour before going to bed on October 31.

WELCA - WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

WELCA will meet Wednesday, November 4 at 11:00 in the Upper Room. Bring a food item to share. Friends welcome. Volunteers for devotions welcome.



CAFÉ ON VINE - NOVEMBER 7

The sign-up board is in the narthex for food items and for serving lunch on November 7.

We need helpers on Friday, November 6 at 9:30 a.m. to fix the meal and servers on Saturday, November 9. Meet at church at 10:30 a.m. to head over to Café on Vine. We serve from noon to 1:00 p.m.

CCC – CALVARY CARE CREW NOVEMBER 18

November 18 at 9:00 a.m. C.C.C. will meet to do some cleaning around the church and then enjoy some fellowship and snacks. All are welcome to join in.



We offer our sympathies and prayers to the family and friends of Gisele Richardson. She passed away on October10. **We also offer our sympathies and prayers** to the friends of Linda Johansen. She passed away on October 10. May you find refuge and comfort in our Lord Jesus Christ.



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

From Sue Knipe - Thank you to everyone for the cards, prayers and other kindnesses shown to me following the passing of my husband, LaVerne.. I appreciate all the support I received from my Calvary family

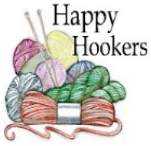
From Churches United - Thank you for your continued support of the mission and ministries of Churches United. We have received $165.00 donation to Moline/East Moline CareLink. We also received your gift of $165 to help keep the doors open at Winnie['s Transitional Housing.



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - NOVEMBER 17

Deadline for the December newsletter is NOVEMBER 17! The office will not guarantee insertion of articles if received after the due date. Thanksgiving is the following week and the office will be open Monday through Wednesday. You may email them, place them in my box or call the church office.

HAPPY HOOKERS - NOVEMBER 18



Note Date Change - The Happy Hookers will be meeting on Wednesday, November 18 at 9:30 a.m. Along the great fellowship and delicious snacks. We will be getting our Christmas gifts ready. everyone is welcome.

FOOD PANTRY DEADLINE – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15



Calvary is once again collecting food for the Youth Hope Thanksgiving Baskets. We would like all items brought to church no later than November 15th.

DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS
NOVEMBER 22



After the worship service on November 22, we will decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. It doesn't take long if we have many hands so make plans to stay and help out.



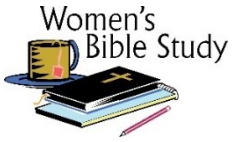
CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR LSSI

DEADLINE – NOVEMBER 29

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to either buy a gift or give monetarily. Once we receive the names, we will let you choose a child. Please DO NOT WRAP. LSSI is also looking for wrapping paper, gift bags and tags.

Gifts are due on Sunday, November 29. You may either drop your gift off gift during the week or bring to church on Sunday, November 29.

Meeting of Café Group



We will meet on Saturday, **October 31** and on **November 21 from 10 – 11 a.m**. at St. James in our Fellowship Hall. October 31, we will be discussing chapter 1,2, & 3. On November 21 we will be discussing chapters 4,5 & 6 the highly recommended book, *One Thousand Gifts*, by Ann Voskamp. We have been able to find it at the library, kindle, audible, and used books. It has great reviews. (If you do not have book – no worries – Rhea, is very accommodating, and she'll make sure the discussion goes well without having done the prework.) All women are welcome. Please call Rhea Frank-Cottingham, 309-781-8546 for date of next meeting.

UPCOME DECEMBER EVENTS



CHRISTMAS CAROLING

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17

We are planning on going caroling at Story Point at 2 p.m. Please let Renee Ketelsen know if you are interested in signing or if you would like to add another place, please contact Renee. Her cell is: 309-737-3162.



ORDER YOUR POINSETTIA

Deadline: December 3

Now $10.00

Make checks payable to:
Calvary Lutheran Church

Please complete the appropriate information:

In Memory of:

_____

_____

_____

In Honor of:

_____

_____

_____

Given by:

_____

_____

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 NOVEMBER.

Renee Ketelsen & Sandy Ohrn

LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. for NOVEMBER

Nov. 1 – Linda Chase (L);
Val & Bruce Daniel (CA)
Nov. 8– Barb Geerts (L);
Sandy Ohrn & Renee Ketelsen (CA)
Nov. 15 – Deb Faith (L & CA);
Val Daniel (CA)
Nov. 22– Karla Kirkwood-Johnson (L)
Connie Langston & Deb Faith (CA)
NOV. 29 – Gary Gross (L & CA);
Joe Geerts (CA)

BACK DOOR GREETERS for NOVEMBER

Nov. 1 – Jacki Dooley
Nov 8 – Barb Geerts
Nov. 15 – Deb Faith
Nov. 22– Terry Langston
Nov. 29 – Joe Geerts

COUNTERS for NOVEMBER

Nov. 1 – Charlene Lundstrom & Vicki McAister
Nov 8 – Paul Levesque & Barb Geerts
Nov. 15 – Deb Faith & Teri Griebel
Nov. 22– Gary Gross & Terry Langsotn
Nov. 29 – Greg Johnson & Connie Langston

USHERS/GREETERS for NOVEMBER

Nov. 1 –Gary Gross
Nov 8 – Kirk Ketelsen
Nov. 15 – Terry Langsotn
Nov. 22– Vicki McAlister
Nov. 29 – Val & Bruce Daniel

ALTAR GUILD for DECEMBER

Pam Ohrn & Sandy Ohrn

LECTORS & COMMUNION ASST. for DECEMBER

Dec. 6 – Jacki Dooley (L);
Connie Langston & Deb Faith (CA)
Dec/ 13– Paul Levesque (L & CA);
Dawn Levesque (CA)
Dec. 20 - **8:30 a.m.**– Barb Geerts (L);
Bruce & Val Daniel (CA)
Dec. 24 – Renee Ketelsen (L & CA)
Sandy Ohrn (CA)
Dec. 27 – Deb Faith (L & CA);
Renee Ketelsen (CA)

BACK DOOR GREETERS for DECEMBER

Dec. 6 – Vicki McAlister
Dec. 13 – Dawn Levesque
Dec. 20 – **8:30 a.m. –** Linda Chase
Dec. 24 – Pam Gross
Dec. 27 – Deb Faith

COUNTERS for DECEMBER

Dec. 6 – Pam Gross & Linda Chase
Dec. 13 – Deb Faith & Teri Griebel
Dec. 20 – **8:30 a.m. –** Paul Levesque & Barb Geerts
Dec. 24 – NO COUNTERS
Dec. 27 – Charlene Lundstrom & Vicki McAlister

USHERS/GREETERS for DECEMBER

Dec. 6 – Linda Chase
Dec. 13 – Joe Geerts & Gary Gross
Dec. 20 – **8:30 a.m. –** Kirk Ketelsen
Dec. 24 – Barb & Joe Geerts
Dec. 27 – Terry Langston & Joe Geerts

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

November 2026

October '26

S	M	T	T	F	S
				1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	30

December '26

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS - Turn clocks BACK 1 Hour** **All Saints Sunday** 9:15 am Coffee Hour 10:30 am Worship	2	3	4 11:00 am WELCA, Upper Room	5	6 9:30 am workers needed to help fix food for Café on Vine	7 **10:30 am - Meet at** church to serve at CAFÉ ON VINE
8 9:15 am Coffee Hour 10:30 am Worship	9 9:00 am Faithful Flexors 10:00 am Bible Study	10 1:00 pm Church Council	11	12 9:00 am Faithful Flexors	13	14
15 **YOUTH HOPE FOOD PANTRY DUE TODAY** 9:15 am Coffee Hour 10:30 am Worship	16 9:00 am Faithful Flexors 10:00 am Bible Study	17 **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**	18 9:30 am Happy Hookers	19 9:00 am Faithful Flexors 7:00 pm Quad City Coin Club - Erlander Hall	20	21
22 **Christ the King Sunday** 9:15 am Coffee Hour 10:30 am Worship	23 **9:00 am OFFICE OPEN** 9:00 am Faithful Flexors 10:00 am Bible Study	24 **9:00 am OFFICE OPEN**	25 **NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTED** **9:00 am OFFICE OPEN**	26 **OFFICE CLOSED!** 	27	28
29 **1ST Sunday in Advent** **LSSI CHRISTMAS GIFTS DUE** 9:15 am Coffee Hour 10:30 am Worship	30 **NO FAITHFUL FLEXORS** 10:00 am Bible Study	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	Notes **Poinsettia Orders** are due in the office by December 4th. **LSSI CHRISTMAS GIFTS DUE NOVEMBER 29 -**				

Calendar Templates by Vertex42

December 2026

November '26

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

January '27

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 **1ST Sunday in Advent** **LSSI CHRISTMAS GIFTS DUE** 9:30:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 am Worship	30 9:00 am Faithful Flexors 10:00 am Bible Study	1	2 **11:30 AM WELCA** **place to be determinded**	3 **Poinsettia Order Deadline** 9:00 am Faithful Flexors	4	5
6 **2ND Sunday in Advent** 9:30 am Coffee Hour 10:30 am Worship	7 9:00 am Faithful Flexors 10:00 am Bible Study	8 1:00 pm Church Council	9	10 **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** 9:00 am Faithful Flexors	11	12
13 **PASTOR'S CELEBRATION RETIREMENT** 9:15 am Coffee Hour 10:30 am Worship **NOON - CATERED LUNCH**	14 **9:00 am OFFICE OPEN** 9:00 am Faithful Flexors 10:00 am Bibe Study	15 **9:00 am OFFICE OPEN**	16 **9:00 am OFFICE OPEN** 9:00 am - Calvary Caretaker	17 **NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTED** **9:00 am OFFICE OPEN** 9:00 am Faithful Flexors **2:00 PM CHRISTMAS CAROLING** 7:00 pm Quad City Coin Club - Erlander Hall	18	19
20 **4TH Sunday in Advent** **8:30 AM** WORSHIP 9:30 am Coffee Hour	21 **9:00 am OFFICE OPEN** **NO FAITHFUL FLEXORS**	22 **9:00 am OFFICE OPEN**	23 **CALL FIRST TO SEE IF OFFICE IS OPEN OR CLOSED**	24 **CHRISTMAS EVE** **OFFICE CLOSED** 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Service 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service at St James, RI	25 **OFFICE CLOSED** 	26
27 **PASTOR'S LAST SUNDAY** 9:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 am Worship	28 **OFFICE OPEN**	29 **OFFICE OPEN**	30 **NEW YEARS EVE** **OFFICE CLOSED**	31 **OFFICE CLOSED** 	1 **OFFICE CLOSED**	2

Notes: **December 4 - Poinsettia Orders are due in the office**

DECEMBER 13 - PASTOR'S CELEBRATION - Catered Lunch following Worship

December 20 - 8:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE. Pastor will be at 10:30 Worship at St. James for their celebration.

December 24 - 4:00 pm - Christmas Eve Service at Calvary, Moline

December 24 - 7:00 pm - Christmas Eve Service at St. James, Rock Island