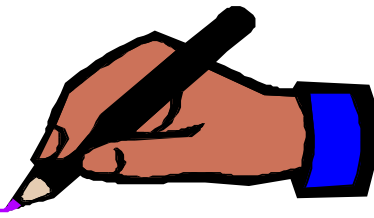


FROM THE PASTOR



MUSTARD SEED
CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
APRIL 2018

He is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

We have journeyed from the land of exile in the wilderness of our sin and our journey to the cross of Calvary has once again reached its triumphant victory with the empty tomb. We celebrate in the saving knowledge that our Risen Lord has defeated the evil trinity of sin, death, and the devil and in turn has credited us with His holy gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation! It is a true joy to live each and every day in the unconditional grace of God, our heavenly Father, with the assurance that as His children, we will one day live and reign with Him in heaven's paradise forever! This is the hope I prayed filled your hearts and minds when we gathered together on Easter morning to bear witness to the rising of the sun as we sang hymns of praise in celebration of the rising of the Son! Even though we were still sinners, Christ died and rose FOR US so that our lives would be filled with hope and joy. After all...this is what sustains us from day to day...as we await the coming of our Lord.

Many shared with me that Good Friday's service really hit home. Though we may not be Jewish or a Roman soldier, the realization that it was our voices that also cried out, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!" made us very uncomfortable. To think that we played a part in our Lord's un-fair trial and death is nauseating. While I find no joy in magnifying our sin, I will admit that I was pleased to hear that God's Word on Good Friday struck a note with so many...myself included. The agony of Good Friday made Easter morning that much more sweet as we traveled with Mary Magdalene and the other women to Jesus' tomb to find it EMPTY! He is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

In the joy of Easter morning, there was also a semblance of sadness as many of our winter family shared that they were preparing to head back to their summer residences. Many hugs were exchanged as some were heading out of Yuma that very morning after Easter breakfast. This time of the year is bitter-sweet for me. For half of the year, people from all over the country and Canada share their lives with us here at Calvary. There is a hustle and bustle to all the events and activities taking place here at the church. Then suddenly...it seems to come to a slow crawl when people leave and summer lurks just around the corner. Streets and businesses are full of vehicles and people... many voices ring out in unison for hymns and prayers... and potluck dinners and festive gatherings are abundant with joy and life. Then...things get quiet. Road congestion is minimal...the church isn't as full...and

potlucks and gatherings are not as prevalent. We miss our winter family and we look expectantly to their return in the fall.

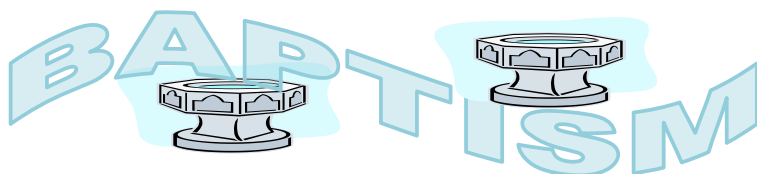
Yet, the quiet and stillness is also welcome as we gather our thoughts and hold on to our memories of days gone by. Personally, it is nice when life slows down a little bit and we can catch our breath from the busyness of all the wonderful activities and events. Not only did we celebrate Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter...this past year was full of celebrations as we rejoiced in the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, held two church picnics with hymn-sings at Joe Henry Park, and hosted a movie day at the church. The joy of all those days pervades my heart and mind as I begin pondering upcoming events for Calvary's summer family and themes for the Christmas and Easter season that will be here before we know it. While it seems so far away, like usual, time will fly by and calendars will be filled once again with events and activities. That's why this time of quiet and stillness is important that all of us treasure up all that God has done for us and ponder it in our hearts.

To those who have left or will be leaving us, know that our thoughts and prayers go with you. May your travels be safe and your days filled with abundant blessings. I am thankful to God for ALL of you! But even more...know that you are loved by your Calvary Lutheran Church family! To those who remain and tough out the long and HOT summers, know that my heart remains with you and I regularly pray for you. May these summer months together be full of joy and rich blessing as we continue to gather together in celebration of our Risen Lord! I am equally thankful to God for ALL of you. But even more...know that you are deeply loved by your Calvary Lutheran Church family! Yet...above all...may all of us find our greatest joy and love in the love of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. For my dear friends, it is true! He is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor Kessler

Happy Birthday!

Ray Huter	04/01
Arlene Schauer	04/03
Johnnie Altstatt	04/04
Carolyn Claude	04/06
Ann Lee	04/07
Jane Pray	04/07
Shawn Backs	04/09
Iris Bezo	04/09
Adrianne Wagner	04/16
Dean Reichert	04/19
Bruce Fenske	04/20
Reginald Jahn	04/21
Pam Green	04/22
Derek Bezo	04/28



Rebecca Kessler	04/01
Arlene Schauer	04/03
Keith Macomber	04/08
Pearl Gleichman	04/09
Alvin Broyles IV	04/10
Janet Ehrlich	04/12
Chuck Liehe	04/15
Adrianne Wagner	04/15
Maggie Fenske	04/16
Jacob LeClerc	04/16
Dean Reichert	04/19
Ann Lee	04/25
Connie Wubben	04/25

Happy Anniversary

Gaylyn & Virginia Hilstad	04/01
Michael & Donna Fairchild	04/07
Hank & Pam Green	04/19



HELP WANTED!

COUNTERS NEEDED

The counters yearly calendar is nearly bare.

For more information to sign up to be a counter please ask Larry & Ann Lee, or Donna Fairchild.

Galvary Lutheran Church Council Reports

Board Meetings & Council Tuesday, April 10, 2018 @ 6PM

If you have a complaint or concern please attend the board meetings so the boards can address the issue.

2018 Contributions	
03/04/2018	\$4,178.00
03/11/2018	\$1,997.00
03/18/2018	\$3,104.00
03/25/2018	\$2,832.00
03/30/2018	\$ 562.00
Office	\$1,482.72



Avg. \$ per week \$3,538.93

Contribution amount needed, per week is **\$3,423.29** to meet current budget.

Year to date	\$42,338.97
Misc Income	1,279.67
Fund raiser	

Avg. \$ per week (12weeks)	\$ 3,657.39
Short \$ per week	\$ 0.00

2018 Contributions & Expenses DECEMBER (UNRECONCILED)

GENERAL FUND	
Contributions	\$14,155.72
Misc Income	\$ 0.00
Expenses	<u>\$13,220.57</u>
Excess/Loss	\$ 935.15

YEAR TO DATE

Contributions	\$42,338.97
Misc Income	\$ 1,279.67
Expenses	<u>\$42,118.00</u>
Excess/Loss	\$ 1,500.64

Yearly Short \$ per week	\$0.00
--------------------------	--------

Parking Lot Fund

Fund Total as of March 31	\$20,069.27
---------------------------	-------------

Contributions	\$
Aluminum Cans	\$
Fund Total	\$20,069.27



The Parking Lot repair is estimated to cost more than we have financially at this time. Trustees have decided to wait and continue efforts to raise the funds needed to do the repairs correctly.

The Easter Breakfast free will offering will go toward the Parking lot fund. If you miss out on this wonderful opportunity to make a donation, you can still make do so by making a contribution on Sundays, just mark your envelope how much on the bottom special offering portion of the envelope.

Don't forget we do have the on going aluminum can drive for the Parking lot fund. You can drop your cans off in the old kitchen where there are cans and bags available to collect them. Mike & Janet do take them to the recyclers. Thank you.



Recycle aluminum cans

Please continue to bring your cans in.



LWML News

The last LWML meeting for this season was held on March 1st. During the business meeting we decided to give one half ($1/2 = \$400$) of the proceeds from the rummage sale to the church treasury. A HUGE THANK YOU to all those who helped on Friday and Saturday. We also made some decisions on changing our future monthly gift to the Fort Wayne food bank.

Doris Casey had shown us spiritual booklets for shut-ins and those in a nursing home and we assembled these under direction of Doris and Paula Backs. Paula had printed all the materials to put in them. THANK YOU to both of these gals for all this work. If you would like to have one to give to someone, please see Pastor or Paula Backs.

It is our custom to make a mission gift of \$100 each month to an organization chosen by the person who presents our program. The February organization chosen by Linda Kaiser was shipping for Orphan Grain Train. This month Doris chose Jesse's Closet. .

The LWML Spring Celebration will be on Saturday, April 14th at Shepherd of the Hills. Registration is from 8:30 to 9:00 AM and the registration fee remains at \$5.00. The afternoon program will be from Jesse's Closet and the afternoon offering will go there. We hope there will be some from Calvary who can't attend.

Please continue to save the "Betty Crocker" proofs and your used ink cartridges. There are collection boxes for both items in the entry of the Fellowship Hall.

REMEMBER: ALL WOMEN WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE LCMS are considered members of the LWML. Please think about joining with us when we resume meetings in the fall.

BLESSINGS for a God blessed summer.



Easter Breakfast

Wasn't that fun. What a tasty breakfast. Thank you to M²+R² (Mike Ehrlich, Mike Fairchild, Randy Ehrlich, Randy Williams.)

We have left over homemade buttermilk syrup. If you would like to take some home, please let Janet know and she will pour you some into a to-go container.

From the Office

We apologize for the April newsletter being completed late. Due to a computer malfunction the office has been working diligently to catch up. Your patience is greatly appreciated. Thank you.


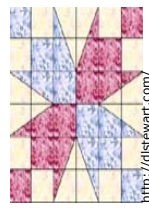
We have reached the end of the 1st Quarter of Calvary's financial statement and I am thrilled to inform all of you that contributions have exceeded the church's expenses!

THANK YOU so very much for your generous contributions to the church treasury in support of Calvary's mission to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ! Each year there is concern as contributions become less than the monthly expenditures and money needs to be transferred from the church's savings to cover the remaining expenses. As we begin the 2nd Quarter, I encourage you keep up this good and noble work and to pray for God's guidance as you continue supporting Calvary Lutheran Church. Your generous donations ensure that Calvary will be the spiritual home for future generations as well as winter visitors.

THANK YOU again!

April 2018

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

1 EASTER 06:00 AM-Easter Sunrise Pancake Breakfast 09:00 AM-Communion Service	2	3	4	5 07:00 PM-AWC Campus ministry	6 03:30 PM-Elders Meeting	7 07:00 AM-Bible Study/ Goldsborro
8 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Sunday School	9	10 06:00 PM-Board meeting 07:00 PM-Council Meeting	11 11:00 AM-Bible Study	12 09:30 AM-Bible Study/ Ed. Bldg 07:00 PM-AWC Campus ministry	13 09:00 AM-LWML Quilting	14 07:00 AM-Bible Study/ Goldsborro 
15 09:00 AM-Matins Service 10:30 AM-Sunday School	16	17	18 11:00 AM-Bible Study	19 09:30 AM-Bible Study/ Ed. Bldg 07:00 PM-AWC Campus ministry	20 09:00 AM-LWML Quilting  http://dlistewart.com/	21 07:00 AM-Bible Study/ Goldsborro
22 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Sunday School	23	24	25 11:00 AM-Bible Study	26 09:30 AM-Bible Study/ Ed. Bldg 07:00 PM-AWC Campus ministry	27 09:00 AM-LWML Quilting	28 07:00 AM-Bible Study/ Goldsborro
29 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Sunday School	30					