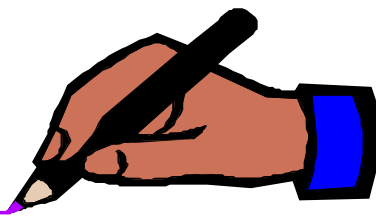


FROM THE PASTOR



MUSTARD SEED
CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
NOVEMBER 2018

“Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me.” How many of us remember that playground mantra? Someone during recess called us a name or was spreading rumors about us. It was an adage many, if not all, of us learned as a way to defend ourselves from being hurt. Sadly, that ‘saying’ is anything but true. In fact, it is a terrible lie. Growing up, we begin to learn that physical wounds may leave visible scars but the pain often goes away. That is not the case with emotional wounds. Let’s face it...we all care what others think or say about us. We want to be liked. We want people to speak kindly of and to us. And when someone says something hurtful to us or about us, the wound it inflicts slices deep. And, although the scar may be invisible, the pain is very real. Not to mention, the time it takes to heal that wound can last a lifetime. The bottom line is that “WORDS MATTER,” and what we say to someone or about someone does make a difference.

As many of us prepare to head to the polling places to cast our vote for this year’s elections, we have all been bombarded with television ads and candidate signs begging for our vote. Even at the church we received a message on the answering machine from President Trump encouraging us to vote for the person he supports! But, every time I see an ad on tv bashing one of the candidates, spewing at times very hateful and spiteful things, I think back to the truth that “WORDS MATTER.” Words of lies and hatred are nauseating, and to be sure, they do have an effect on the person the ad is targeting. In the end, the wounds those words of hate and lies inflict will leave lasting scars that even the toughest of people might not be able to overcome.

I remember as a child, there were times I attempted to assert my authority...my independence. Sadly, I usually went about it the wrong way. If I asked my parents if I could do something or go somewhere and they said “no,” I would get all bent out of shape, vomiting words that were really hurtful. My tongue might have been small, but it was mighty. Only after I had time to think about my words did I begin to realize how terrible they were. I would feel overwhelming guilt, and usually was too ashamed to admit I had been so mean and spiteful. As a parent myself, I sometimes find that I am on the receiving end of what I did to my parents with my words. I understand the hurt and pain they caused now that my role is different. I want to believe that I am wiser now than I was 30+ years ago, but I also recognize that I am a broken, sinful man and my tongue can still get me into trouble if it is not bridled.

Words are powerful. Do you realize that even

before words were uttered by mankind, by the mouth of God, the world was ‘spoken’ into existence by His Word! Perhaps that is where we should all take our cue, noting that if words brought the world into existence, then words really do matter a great deal. Words inspire, cause eyes to water, well up courage, make hearts swoon, increase knowledge, build trust, solve problems, maintain order, usher in peace. Words are powerful. It is amazing how just a few words can make all the difference in the outcome of our day. Amazingly, from such a small member of the human body can great things be spoken and bring about a positive end.

However, the opposite is also true. Word dishearten, cause eyes to swell with tears of sorrow and fear, tear down and discourage, make hearts break, increase knowledge of evil, destroy trust, create problems, bring about disorder, and usher in strife. Words are powerful. James writes, “*So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, or reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing*” (Jc 3:5-10a).

It is here that we pray the Holy Spirit would intervene, creating a clean heart and renewing a right spirit within us. It is here that we pray the Holy Spirit would fill us with God’s Word, being a “*lamp to [our] feet and a light to [our] path*” (Ps 119:105). Here, we look to Christ and His cross...His body given and His blood shed...and, in His everlasting goodness and love, we hear the most spectacular of all words, “your sins are forgiven.” Such words of Gospel usher in the peace that surpasses all understanding. Such words bring about a freedom not known apart from Christ Jesus.

My dear friends, it is my prayer that as we enter into the season of holiday cheer, may we be thankful to God for His un-ending love for us. May we use our tongues to utter words of blessing and not cursing. “*And whatever [we] do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him*” (1 Co 3:17).

In Christian Love,
Pastor Kessler

Happy Birthday!

Michael Kessler	11/03
Betty Stewart	11/04
Tyler Green	11/07
Ron Hill	11/08
Armeda Freel	11/11
Trish Garcia	11/12
Katherine Seeger	11/13
Martha Benzler	11/16
Sherri Williams	11/16
Johnnie Ehrlich	11/18
Gerrick Anderson	11/19
Elaine Green	11/21
Ken Clark	11/22
Randy Ehrlich	11/23
Ira Thiessen	11/27

BAPTISM

John Henderson	11/06
Cailynn Stuebs	11/07
Armeda Freel	11/11
Trish Garcia	11/12
Martha Benzler	11/24
Randall Ehrlich	11/25
Ron Hill	11/26
Jeffrey Graham	11/30

Happy Anniversary

Randy & Becky Ehrlich	11/17
Terry & Jane Pray	11/24



DO YOU USE SOCIAL MEDIA?

Did you know that Calvary Lutheran Church can be found online?

Calvary Lutheran Church has not only a web site <www.calvary-lutheran.com> but we also have a facebook page <Calvary Lutheran Church, Yuma AZ> and now we even have an Instagram account <calvarylutheranyuma>.

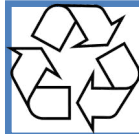
The world can search and find us in many ways beyond our local paper; you can Google us Calvary Lutheran Church or @calvarylutheranyuma or even #Calvarylutheranyuma.

We have likes on our fb (Facebook) page from all over the world. We have google reports showing many hits on people getting directions to locate us. I can't wait to see how our Instagram (IG) account reaches out to the world.

Our web site has sermons you can listen to and read the liturgy text for that Sunday. Janet recently learned how to upload the Sunday sermon and liturgy text on fb, and onto Instagram TV (IGTV) and is trying to find a way to upload the liturgy text on Instagram also.

This is a wonderful way to carry the Good News of Jesus Christ and his death and resurrection to the world.

So if you have not liked us on fb please check us out and like our page, the more likes our page has the more prominent Calvary Lutheran Church is to the world, like wise find and follow us on IG. Also, find us on Google, give us a review. The more reviews we have the more we stay at the top of the search.



Recycle aluminum cans

Please continue to bring your cans in.

Nominating Committee

It's that time of year again when the Vice President and his nominating committee will be contacting members of the congregation. Please carefully and prayerfully consider serving Calvary's congregation on a board or as an officer.

Office Hours

Pastor Kessler will be in the office from 9:00am—12:30pm Tuesdays—Fridays. If you need to meet before or after those hours, please call the office and leave a message. For emergencies, call him on his mobile phone at (701)430-0109

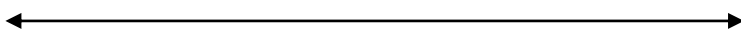
COUNCIL NOTE

Looking for an easy way to make your contributions especially if you are out of town?

There is a way to make your contributions through preauthorized withdrawals from a checking or savings account or even from your LCEF account to Calvary Lutheran Church.

Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) has a free, automated transfer program, called JOYFUL RESPONSE, to help with planned ongoing stewardship. There is an authorization form to fill out to have funds transferred from your checking or savings or LCEF account to Calvary Lutheran Church's account with LCEF.

Calvary's treasurer can then deposit them into the Church's bank account. If you are interested, please call the treasurer, Johnnie Altstatt at (928) 210-3686.



As of October 1, 2018 our office secretary will be going to part time. This will allow the council to make a budget adjustment for 2019 and future budgets to aid in financial stability for Calvary Lutheran Church. Janet has procured full time employment else where, so this decision will not be a burden to either parties. The Pastor is working on an office hours schedule to be announced. In the mean time for non emergency calls we do have the answer machine and for emergencies you may call the Pastor's cell phone.

Fry's: Do you have a Fry's shopping card? Did you know you can designate Calvary as your NPO (non-profit organization) on your card? Each quarter Fry's donates a % of all shopper's spending designated as Calvary to us. If you already have a card and an email it is fast and easy to do. Just register your card online if you have not done so, go to your account, click edit under community rewards and fill out the prompts Calvary's NPO# YM819.

Thrivent: The Thrivent Choice program gives eligible members of Thrivent Financial the power to recommend where some of the organization's charitable outreach funds are distributed annually, using a vehicle called Choice Dollars®. You can direct your choice dollars to Calvary Lutheran Church, we are a registered nonprofit with the Thrivent Choice program. You can contact Thrivent to find out how to designate your dollars.

IRA Charitable Rollover: If you are 70.5 or older, there may be advantages to giving to Calvary Lutheran Church through your IRA. The IRA charitable rollover allows taxpayers age 70.5 or older to transfer up to \$100,000 annually from their IRA accounts directly to a nonprofit without first having to recognize the distribution as income.

Calvary Lutheran Church Council Reports

**Board Meetings & Council
Tuesday, October 9, 2018 @ 6PM**

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

PASTOR'S APPRECIATION

Romans 10:14 - How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

On October 21, Calvary celebrated Pastor Appreciation Month by recognizing Pastor Kessler with a special offering totaling over \$2500 to be used toward his outstanding student loans.



THANK YOU! To all the members of our Calvary Lutheran Church family, Jennifer and I would like to extend to you our most heartfelt gratitude for the very warm and generous gift you presented to us and our family on October 21st in recognition of Pastor Appreciation Month! Saying "Thank You" just doesn't seem like enough. We are so very blessed to call Yuma home and even more blessed to be a part of Calvary's family. We love and cherish each and every one of you and pray our Lord would richly shower you with His grace! Thank you, again and again and again!!!
Pastor & Jennifer Kessler, Hannah, Sophia, and Austin

**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.

"Greetings from the Mission Board. We have a some exciting news for you this month.

Starting off there will be a movie afternoon showing of "I Can Only Imagine." This movie is inspired by the true life story of singer Bart Millard from the band MercyMe. It tells the story of his complicated relationship with his abusive father. The movie will start at 2:00 PM on Saturday, November 3rd. If you have a comfortable lawn chair you would like to bring please do so. We love comfort. Popcorn and drinks will be provided. Come one, come all.

The next news is that we will again have a "sock tree" for you to hang socks from for men, woman and children who are getting assistance from Crossroads Mission. The tree will be up the first Sunday after Thanksgiving until December 16th. Last year we have a wonderful response and collected over 200 pairs of socks.

Lastly, we are going to go Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 16th. We will meet up at the back parking lot and work out some carpooling. So bring your bright spirit and have an enjoyable time providing good tidings to those who aren't always able to get out and about over the Christmas season.

If anyone has any ideas they would like to bring to the boards attention please let Debbie Lamaestra or Connie Wubbena know what you're thinking.

LWML NEWS



The LWML officers met recently and made plans for this winter. At this time we are not planning monthly meetings but have several events planned.

The children from Precious Treasures will come to entertain us on Thursday night, December 6th. Last year we had a wonderful turnout of church members to hear them perform and we think you all enjoyed it. We hope you will come on the 6th to celebrate the opening of the Christmas season with their singing.

The annual cookie sale with vendors will be held on December 15th.

We plan to celebrate LWML Sunday in January. More details on that and other activities as the time gets nearer.

REMEMBER: all women of the LCMS are considered members of the LWML. BLESSINGS.

New Picture Board has finally arrived. If your picture is not up there, please see Ann or Larry Lee after any Sunday Service to get your picture or your families picture taken. If you know some one on the board whose picture is not up there, and they can't make it to Church, offer to take their picture and bring to us at Church. Any and all help is appreciated. We need to have all pictures taken prior to the 1st of December. We want to be able to get a new Church Directory published and sent to a Printer.

Pie and Ice Cream Social Fundraiser. We will be putting on a Pie and Ice Cream Social here at the Church on Saturday, November 17th from 1:30 to 4:00. There will also be a Silent Auction of selected pies. The Silent Auction will go from 1:30 until 3:00. As long as a phone number is provided you will not have to be present to win.

Cost will be as follows:

- ◇ Slice of Pie only - \$3.00,
- ◇ Pie with Ice Cream - \$4.00.
- ◇ Ice Cream only - \$1.00 a dip. Ice Cream toppings will be provided.



Looking for Pie donations. Make your favorite pie and donate it to our Social. Help will be needed on Friday afternoon and Saturday during and after the Social for setup and cleanup. Come for the Fun and the Great Pies. Janet is applying for a Thrivent Action Grant for the supplies.

Stewardship is in desperate need of Counters. If you can add 2 and 2 together we want you. Right now there is only a few doing the counting. Larry Lee is a good instructor with lots of patience. Please consider volunteering. Thank you



November 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10:00 AM-Bible Study 07:00 PM-A WC Campus Ministry	2 09:00 AM-LWML Quilting	3 07:00 AM-Bible Study/ Goldsborro 02:00 PM-Movie
4 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Sunday School	5	6	7 05:00 PM-Confirmation	8 10:00 AM-Bible Study 07:00 PM-AWC Campus Ministry	9	10 07:00 AM-Bible Study/ Goldsborro
11 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Sunday School	12	13 06:00 PM-Board meeting 07:00 PM-Council Meeting	14 05:00 PM-Confirmation	15 10:00 AM-Bible Study 07:00 PM-A WC Campus Ministry	16	17 07:00 AM-Bible Study/ Goldsborro 12:00 PM-Usher Train- ing 01:30 PM-Pie & Ice Cream Social
18 09:00 AM-Matins Service 10:30 AM-Sunday School	19	20	21 05:00 PM-Confirmation	22 10:00 AM-Bible Study 07:00 PM-A WC Campus Ministry	23	24 07:00 AM-Bible Study/ Goldsborro
25 09:00 AM-Communion Service 10:30 AM-Sunday School	26	27	28 05:00 PM-Confirmation	29 10:00 AM-Bible Study 07:00 PM-A WC Campus Ministry	30	