



JUNE 2021

...IN SACRED PLACES...

CELEBRATING MINISTRY OF CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH



Greetings to you in the name of our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ!

Do you ever wonder about this mysterious Holy Spirit that we celebrate on Pentecost Sunday? We can't see the Spirit.

We can only see the effects of the Spirit on us and on the world. We can't touch the Spirit. We can only feel the Spirit moving within and among us. And how are we to describe the work of this Holy Spirit when Scripture describes it in so many different ways? Comforter, advocate, guide, teacher, counselor, gatherer, giver of gifts and talents...

When I get caught up in the mind-boggling details of the Holy Spirit, I turn to Paul's letter to the church of Christ in Rome. Here, Paul tells us that whenever we are weak, the Spirit is present. And in this description of the Spirit, all the others fall into place. When I am weak, the Spirit brings comfort. When I am weak and feel alone, the Spirit walks beside me. When I am weak and lost in the mire of the world, the Spirit shows me the way. In my weakness, the Spirit is my strength.

Attuning ourselves to recognizing all that the Spirit does with us and for us can be difficult thought. To recognize the Spirit with us when we are alone or lost or weak, takes practice. It takes faith, and trust, and a desire to see the world from a perspective other than our own. These things don't just come naturally, they take practice, and that practice is found in prayer.

Paul writes, "the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans." ²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God." (Romans 8:26-27 *New International Version*)

In the spirit of prayer then, I offer you "A Prayer for Pentecost" by Joyce Rupp. I offer too, a word of encouragement to practice prayer throughout this long season of Pentecost. Lift your own words to God, use the words of this prayer, or search out one that speaks to you. Better yet, sit in silence and practice listening for God, who does and will continue, to speak to you. Take a few moments of each day to practice this new way of life, one that is lived fully in the Spirit and in God's perspective of you and of this world.

A Prayer for Pentecost by Joyce Rupp

Spirit! Power and Passion of my being,
press upon my heart your profound love.
Move through the fragments of my days;
enable me to sense your fiery Presence
consecrating my most insignificant moments.

Spirit! Source of Vision, Perceptive Guide,
permeate the moments of my choices
when falsehood and truth both call to me.
Turn me toward the way of goodness,
so that I will always lean toward your love.

Spirit! Blessing for the heart grown weary,
encircle me with your loving energy,
empower me with your active gentleness.
Deepen within me a faith in your dynamism
which strengthens the weak and the tired.

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Announcements

The Evangelism and Outreach Team oversees a nonperishable food and personal care item collection.

Wayne will deliver after June 27



Please place items you wish to donate in the basket June items go to

Blue Valley Community Action

Message from Pastor Sarah (con't)

Spirit! Breath of Life, Touch of Mystery, you are the ribbon of inner connection, uniting me with the groaning of all creation. Because of you, my life gathers into a oneness.

Keep me attentive to this interdependence. Fill my being with a constant compassion and a deep hope that knows no bounds.

Spirit! Dwelling Place, Sanctuary of Silence, you are the home for which I deeply yearn. you are the resting place for which I long. I find both comfort and challenge in you. Grant that I may keep my whole self open to the transforming power of your indwelling, that I may ever know the blessing of your tremendous companionship.

In the peace of God,
Pastor Sarah

W.E.L.C.A. NEWS

Summer will be arriving soon and it's time to start planning the Swede Home Ice Cream Social, to be held **July 18 from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.** Sign up sheets will be available for you at June Circle meetings. Please return sign-up sheets to Deb H. or Cheryl soon after your circle meetings.

*Thanks to EVERYONE in advance for all you do to make the annual Ice Cream Social a success!

*Thanks to everyone serving summer coffees after church.

*Thanks to Miriam circle for furnishing coffee after the Swede Home Memorial Day Service and to Ruth Circle for furnishing VBS snacks.

*Service for month of June is an offering to go to ELCA World Hunger Campaign. July service is Ice Cream Social.

*June Altar Care will be by Kay Jones & Missy Althouse; July by Diana Johnson; August by Kathi Jones and Mary Stevens.

*Flowers this summer by Ruth Circle.

*Quilting fun and fellowship will be on June 24 and July 22. Please join us.

*Remember Ice Cream at Assisted Living at Covenant Home on Monday, 7/19 at 2:30 p.m.

JUNE

Hostess/Dessert Bible Study

Ruth – 6/9	Janelle Udey	Janelle
Miriam - 6/11	Diana Johnson	Gloria

Grace & Peace to you,

Cheryl

Thank you

RECIPES



For many years, the beauty of the Swede Home church and parsonage lawns, along with the cemetery property has been loving cared for Mark and

Penny Udey.

This year they submitted their resignation due to health reasons.

The Cemetery Board, Council and Members extend a **BIG THANK YOU** to Mark and Penny for the many hours they spend caring for the lawns at Swede Home.

Colby Nelson and Carrey Clauff have been hired to tend to the mowing. We thank them for taking this position.



Thank you to everyone that supported us when we mowed the church, parsonage and cemetery of Swede Home.

Due to health limitations, we had to resign in 2021.

Sincerely, Mark and Penny Udey

From Ben Carlson's Great-Great Aunt Carmella. Ben says this is a delicious and simple recipe that his mother's Great Aunt Carmella would bake for our family when she and Uncle Sonny would come from Tacoma, Washington and stay with us on our family farm for a week. As they would say, "they came to enjoy our peaceful and beautiful farming community. "

BAKED TUNA AND NOODLES

- 1 Tablespoon margarine
- 1/4 cup finely chopped onion
- 1/4 cup finely chopped green pepper
- 1 can (4 oz) mushrooms, drained
- 2 cans (7 oz each) tuna, drained and flaked
- 1 medium tomato, chopped and drained
- 1 Tablespoon lemon juice
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper
- 3/4 cup mayonnaise
- 1 package (8 oz) noodles, cooked
- 1/2 cup coarsely shredded Cheddar Cheese

In small skillet, melt margarine over medium heat. Sauté onion, green pepper and mushrooms, stirring frequently, until tender, about 5 minutes. Stir together the next 6 ingredients. Add noodles, mixing well. Turn into a greased 2-quart casserole. Top with cheese. Bake uncovered in 400-degree oven, 20 minutes or until heated and cheese is melted.



The Farm

by Peyton Hofmann

Swede Home congratulates Peyton Hofmann as her poem “the farm”, was selected to participate in the Poetry of Place event sponsored by the Nebraska Writing Club.

the farm

Back then
it was full of life
Pigs filling every pen in every barn
Smell so immediate, you knew who
You were visiting
Back then,
it could've been in a magazine
Gates hung straight with no squeaks,
level concrete
Two dogs greeted you
Always someone in the Quonset
working on something.
Flowers planted every year kept
pruned and pure
Chicken coop door still latched right
Fence neat and solid
The grass cut, kept very green
Clothes line hung tight
Balcony looked down on the pool,
yellow slide from on high

Now
still has nice people,
just not as many come by
No pigs are around squealing
anymore.

Now
Gates hang at a slant,
alerting you to someone's presence
with a squeak
Graves of two trusted canines
Quonset full of dust, abandoned



The old dead stems of flowers
Hollow and brittle
Areas in the vast lawn, grass
yellowed and wilted
Chicken coop little run-down, but still
habitable
Fence gates just a little wobble
Mossy sticks now scattered among
the ground
Clothes line loose, and sags down
like a tired smile
Old trucks now fill the yard, showing
The service they've done
Pool is gone
Along with the yellow slide, no more
balcony from on high

But it is still the farm
The one I grew up on
Still clucking chickens
Gained some skittish barn cats
Gravel driveway
and the smiles have stayed the same
Cheerful and welcoming.
The farm, still peaceful and grand
Happy, I can still call it mine

By Peyton Hofmann

Upcoming events



Join Gloria Oquist and her family as they celebrate her 90th birthday with a coffee in the church fellowship hall, following the June 6th Worship Service



Save the date of Sunday, July 18, Swede Home will have their annual Ice Cream Social!! **Come** help, **Come** eat Ice Cream, **COME!!!!**



Thank you WELCA



Dear Calvary Lutheran Church Women of the ELCA:

Thank you for supporting the ministries of Women of the ELCA with your recent gift of \$ 125.00. Your faithful generosity makes a real difference Thank you.

Even in unsettling times, Women of the ELA in all its expressions—congregational and special units, synodical women's organizations, the churchwide women's organization—is still at work with life-changing ministry. We might be engaging in ministry and action in different ways for a while, but that's what we do—because that's who we are: a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit. And we've committed ourselves to promoting healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world. Your giving helps make that happen. Thank you.

Thank you for your generosity. Together, thanks to your support, we'll get through this. Thank you. For regular updates on our ever growing work together, please see our website, www.womenoftheelca.org

Your giving really does make a difference.

With Gratitude,

Linda Post Bushkofsky

Executive Director

Meet a Member

Carolyn Nielsen grew up in the Thayer area, with parents Harold & Laura Abresch, brother, Dewaine and sister, Linda. She was baptized and confirmed at Zion Lutheran Church (now church building is at Wessel's Living History Farm in York). Carolyn's mom's maiden name was Gruber, and she's a direct

descendent of Franz Gruber, the composer of "Silent Night"!

Carolyn attended Zion Lutheran Parochial School through 8th grade, then attended Thayer High School for 1 year, and graduated from Gresham High School.

Carolyn and her husband, Lew, met on a blind date, arranged by mutual friend, Becky Klein. In July, they will be celebrating their 32nd wedding anniversary.

Carolyn's children are daughter, Carmen & husband Greg from Omaha; son Kevin in Omaha; and daughter, Tara & husband, Chris in Norfolk. They love spending time with granddaughter, Elliot, age 12, and grandson, Greyson, age 9. They Facetime nearly every day with Elliot, and even cook together virtually – sounds like fun!

Carolyn works at Ericson Hardware in Stromsburg part-time, usually Tuesday and Thursday mornings. She likes to work with flowers in the yard and spending time with her grandkids.

She really enjoys the friendliness of everyone at Swede Home, and likes coming here. We're glad to have her & Lew at Swede Home!



**Calvary Lutheran Church
Nebraska Synod, ELCA
950 129th Road
Stromsburg, NE 68666**

Church Phone: (402)764-5981

www.calvaryswedehomechurch.com

Email calvaryswedehomechurch@gmail.com

Every Member of the Congregation—

Ministers

Kent Adelson, Co-Council President

Dan Oquist, Co-Council President

Diana Johnson, Organist

Linda Fuhr, Secretary

LeeAnn Willhoft, Custodian

Council Members:

Todd Hanquist, Lynn Hofmann, Dan Oquist,

Kent Adelson,

Sandra Johnston, Dan Ienn, Fran Lott

All Calvary members, Ministers

We will have Pastor Sarah Ruch as our transition minister. This is her contact information:

Text or call 402-833-8318

Email: pastorsarahruch@gmail.com

Pastor Brenda Pfiefly is on emergency call for Calvary, her contact number is 402-416-5434

Please contact Linda Fuhr, Church Secretary at calvaryswedehomechurch@gmail.com or text or call 402-366-2091,

We Reach to all our faith family in prayer and celebration

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS



Melissa Forsberg
Janice Forsberg
Denny Johnson
June Larson
Elaine Toline

Jan Wells-Bachman
George Belken .
All who are shut in and
need prayers and support

- Genesis House and Living Waters Rescue Mission, Blue Valley Action, & Denver Metro Ministries
- Houses for Health recipients.
- Bishop Brian Maas and the Nebraska Synod staff
- Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and all ELCA congregations and members
- Brody Ienn in service to our country
- Council as they continue the process of church profile and calling a minister
- Our leaders as they face COVID19 decisions
- Our companion synods in Tanzania and Argentina

To request prayers please email the church or call Linda (402-366-2091) or Cheryl (402-366-4797)



June 20th is Father's Day—a special day to honor all the dads, granddads, mentors, and those who are important in your life.

ANNIVERSARIES

JUNE

Jun 2 Amy and Drew
Harris
Jun 3 Yancy & Kim
Krol
Jun 6 Dennis & Betty
Hinkle
Jun 10 Roxanne &
Jerome Czarnick
Jun 16 Tim and Missy
Althouse



BIRTHDAYS

JUNE

02 Ethan Fjell
03 Gloria Oquist
05 Marj Johnson
05 Sandy Johnston
10 Talia Frank
11 Becky Nielsen Willhoft
16 June Larson
19 Jonathan Hanquist
19 Aaron Oquist
19 Erik Oquist
21 Wendy Shafenberg
21 Trent Stevens
22 Vince Krol
23 Craig Brouillette
28 Deborah Ernst
28 Abigail Jones
29 Gary Waller
30 Mike Neujahr

THANK YOU

Thank you to all the members who continue with their financial support for Swede Home Church. In these trying times, we realize even more the words "to give as you are able" God's Blessings



JUNE

Assistant Minister – Wayne Johnson

Scripture Reader – Anita Haack

Ushers – Dawn and Fawn Ienn

Altar/Communion – Kay Jones and Missy Althouse

Acolyte – Shyenne Krol

Bell Ringer – Mark Jones

We thank all those who agree to help with the worship service each month.

June 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 10:30 am Worship with communion Birthday coffee for Gloria Oquist in fellowship hall Church council	7	8	9 Ruth Circle at Janelle Udey	10	11 Miriam Circle at Diana Johnson	12
13 10:30 am Worship Service	14  Flag Day	15	16	17	18	19
20 10:30 am Worship with communion  Happy Father's Day!	21	22	23	24 Quilt Day	25	26
27 10:30 am Worship Service	28	29	30			

Know God, Love God, Share God's Love

COUNCIL NOTES

Church council met May 2, 2021 following worship. Present was Kent, Dan I, Fran, Lynn, Sandy, Pastor Sarah. Dan O was absent

- A spring cleaning day is scheduled for May 8th at 9:00 a.m. It is expected to only take about an hour.
- There is good response for audios of worship services for shut ins. Only one person indicated they would need a CD. Kent will contact someone from our new audio system about recording the services. Resources for burning the CD's are available.
- An unrestricted monetary gift given to Calvary by a former member was noted.
- A request was received from Midwest Covenant Home to provide a speaker at a worship service.
- Confirmation camp is June 27-July 2 at Camp Carol Joy Holling with 5 students expected to attend. They each pay \$100 at registration and the rest of the fees are paid by Calvary.
- Jones family has permission to use the church on Sunday, June 13th for their annual reunion.
- The treasurers report was approved.
- The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.
- The next meeting is June 6, 2021 following church service

Just a reminder regarding COVID restrictions—Masks are no longer mandatory at worship service and activities at the church—they are optional and you may wear them if you are more comfortable

The offering plates will continue to be at the back door of the worship service instead of the plates being passed during the services. Bulletins will continue to be picked up vs the ushers handing them out

We ask that at worship service and fellowship, you space yourself at a distance.

We will continue communion with individual cups and wafers

Treasurer Report

APRIL 2021

Beginning Balance	\$16,769.36
OFFERINGS:	
General	11,574.00
Sunday School	35.00
ELCA LIRS	5.00
Lent-Recorder/Backpack	395.00
Genesis House	100.00
ELCA Mission Share	1,385.00
First Lutheran March	<u>1,573.31</u>
	15,040.31
EXPENSES:	
Vanco echeck	10.36
Weebly Annual web fee	19.95
Cody's Computer Contract	34.99
Christ in our Home	70.00
Communion cups/Altar Candles	96.14
Postage Expense	300.00
Genesis House/designated	100.00
Cemetery association	500.00
NE Synod ELCA mission Share	1,560.00
First English April	<u>1,423.22</u>
UTILITIES	
Church	956.18
Parsonage	97.65
SALARIES	
Pastor	1,283.83
Portico Benefits	796.15
Commuting Allowance	366.91
SECA	127.68
Mileage	36.04
Cell Phone allowance	32.50
Diana	476.24
LeeAnn	241.50
Linda	343.36
Tax WH lay 1st Quarter	<u>670.97</u>
	9,543.67
Balance April 30,2021	\$22,266.00

*This page is only seen by Calvary Members