

...IN SACRED PLACES...

CELEBRATING MINISTRIES OF CALVARY AND ZION LUTHERAN CHURCHES

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR KIM



Many things in life change consistently and community is no different. Relationships are strengthened, broken or repaired as life events happen and priorities change. Places and people that were once familiar are gone and new ones take their place.

For the past few months, I have written and talked about the season of the church year that we are in and one of the gifts it gives. Throughout the summer and now into the fall we have been (and remain) in the season of ordinary time as signified by the green paraments that adorn our altar and pulpit. And the gift of discipleship that comes from this ordinary time, is community—even when it changes or challenges us.

We have explored some of the challenges to community in the Bible study on 1st Corinthians which makes clear that Christians do not always get along. But even in the midst of the more contentious conflict, the community still remains held together by the love of Christ and the Holy Spirit. That love has the power to do that is made clear in that beautiful and famous passage we know from 1st Corinthians—chapter 13.

This month we recognize the change in community that occurs. On the first Sunday in November, we celebrate All Saints Sunday, a day in which we remember and commemorate the saints of the church. We remember by name those who have died since last All Saints Sunday. At Calvary these saints are Myron Larson, Keith Johnson, Richard Anderson, and Irene Sundberg. At Zion, the saints we remember are Carol Bittinger and Lori Ehlers. We give thanks for the faithful witness of these six saints of God who, in their daily life, fulfilled the commission given to them at baptism: “to let their light so shine before others so that all may see your

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

THANK YOU . . .

A new client came to us in August—she left an abuser—had the clothes she was wearing, her purse—and .18 cents!! I call this “ground zero”. Because of your gifts to us, we are able to provide for her emergency needs. The “intensive” care continues with her, everyday. Thank you for the regulars and consistent support! You are a big part of helping miracles happen as our clients re-build their lives. We have a long range plan to assure that Genesis House continues far into the future—you will be hearing about that in the next few months. Look forward to seeing you again soon.

Sincerely,
Pat at Genesis House



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(CONTINUED FROM PASTOR KIM'S MESSAGE ON PAGE 1)

good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

We remember as well on this day that we are saints, people sanctified by the Holy Spirit and claimed by God in the waters of baptism. We too are commissioned to let our light shine just as our brothers and sisters in the faith have done throughout the ages. If you don't feel like much of a saint, that's not uncommon. Luther held that all Christians are simultaneously saint and sinner—a sinner because of our human nature that does things that are contrary to God's ways and will, but a saint because of our salvation in Jesus Christ. We did nothing to earn or win that salvation, rather it is a free gift from God given because God loves us very much.

I give thanks to God for your faithful witness and saintly lives in your communities, home, and in our congregations. You let the world see and know who God is through your life and actions. Child of God, you are one of God's beloved saints. Never forget that that is true about you NO MATTER WHAT. Even if you don't feel particularly saintly or you mess up big or small, that truth will never ever change. Thanks be to God for that!

In Christ,
Pastor Kim

Genesis House

Genesis House needs our help! Instead of our usual basket of donations. Genesis House has requested assistance with operating costs and other expenses. We will be taking a special offering for them the first two Sunday's in November. Please pray fully consider how you can support this vital ministry.

Deepest Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Lori Ehlers. Lori passed away on October 8th. Rest eternal grant her and let light perpetual shine on her.



W.E.L.C.A. NEWS

Dear Members of WELCA,

Harvest is beginning to get in full harvest mode. Recent rains were a factor last week. It surly appears to be a bountiful crop. Safe combining and truckers to our farmers. December general meeting will be before church on December 3rd at 9am, Ruth's circle will be in charge of coffee. Date of executive meeting will be in November, the committee chairs will be notified by phone.

I would like to notify everyone at this time that myself as secretary and Deb S. as treasurer will not be seeking re-election of our jobs. Since we don't have a nominating committee the executive board will take care of replacement nominees. Voting on replacements will be placed on a ballot at the General Meeting. I will be doing the December 2017 newsletter article but the new secretary will be in charge for January 2018.

Love,
Marj

P.S. hope to see everyone at the General Meeting
December 3rd!

November

	<i>Hostess/Dessert</i>	<i>Bible Study</i>
Mary Anna	Alice Jane	Alice Jane
Miriam	Carol Jones	Carol Jones
Ruth	Penny Udey	Penny Udey

Bible Study: *Gather* - November

Service: ESU #7 Giving Tree (**Ref: pg.15**)

December

Date & Time of General Meeting to be announced

(Hostess: Ruth's Circle)

Individual Circles will not meet in December

Service: Christmas for a Local Family!

MISSION AND MINISTRY UPDATE

ELCA Mission Ministry Update

In the last year, a record number of people have fled unimaginable conflict and war in Syria. Many Syrians have found refuge in one of the largest refugee camps in the world, the Za'atari refugee camp in Jordan. Among them is Louie, 19, and his family. While the majority of his family wants to go back to Syria, Louie has other ideas. "I think it would be very difficult to go back to Syria," Louie says. "I just want to go somewhere that is safe, where I can make a life for myself."

Louie and a business partner have a barbershop in the camp. Having already had some experience working in a salon, he eagerly accepted when given the opportunity to participate in barber classes offered through a life-skills training program. This program is made possible in part through gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response in partnership with The Lutheran World Federation.

Your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response are providing life skills to people like Louie and are also providing protection, shelter, education, basic relief, water, and sanitation to thousands of refugees living in the Za'atari camp.

For Louie, your gifts have helped him provide for his family and given him to make a life for himself when he's somewhere safe, wherever this may be.

A Little Humor...

A husband went to buy a birthday gift for his wife. Some friends had been invited over that night to celebrate her fortieth, and he wanted to get something special.

At the store, he spotted some cute little music boxes. One blue one was playing "Happy Birthday." Thinking they were all the same, he chose a red one and had it gift-wrapped.

Later, at dinner, he gave it to his wife and asked her to open it. When she lifted the lid, out came the tune of "The Old Gray Mare, She Ain't What She Used to Be!"

—via Rev. Dr. Karl R. Kraft
Dover, DE

Announcements

Youth Group Meeting

Youth group will be meeting on Sunday, November, 5th from 3:00-6:00pm. We will be doing a service project of leaf raking in Stromsburg with a meal following. Please plan to attend as this should be a good time. We will meet at Stromsburg Covenant Church.



Benedict Community Thanksgiving Service

Benedict Community Sunday School will be hosting a Community service on Sunday, November 26th with Soup Supper at 5:30pm and service at 7:00pm. This will be held at the Benedict Community Center. Canned goods and free will offering will be collected for Blue Valley Food Pantry. All are invited!

Mission Trip

Calling all youth grades 6-12. We will be doing another mission trip in the summer and now is the time to start getting ready for it. Trip dates will be July 7th-14th and we will be going to beautiful Wind River, WY to serve in Native American Communities. If you are interested in going, please let Pastor know by November 19th. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask! This trip is going to be GREAT!



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Calvary Memorial & Gifts Committee

There will be a Memorial and Gifts Committee meeting on Tuesday, November 7th, at 7:00pm.

Freed for Life Dinner

Followers of Christ, Bridges of Hope, and Our Savior's Lutheran FEAST prison ministries are excited to invite you to our Freed for Life Dinner and program from 6-8pm on Sunday, November, 12th at Sheridan Lutheran Church in Lincoln! Cost is \$25 a person or \$200 for a table of seven guests. This event is fundraiser and opportunity for you and your friends to share God's love with those in prison and to help them successfully transition to life outside as responsible citizens.

High School Retreat

December 29-30th

Discover the magnitude of God's love for you and the plans and purpose God has for you! This retreat is for high school-aged youth to learn more about how we can go about finding our purpose and how our vocation can be used for God's plan. Learn more or register at CJHCenter.org/HS-Retreat

Family Advent Retreat

December 8-10

Bring your family together to purposefully present as we prepare for the Christmas season. Through devotion, Worship, and fun family activities, your family will actively engage in learning about the meaning of the season. Learn more or register at CJHCenter.org/FamilyAdvent



Nebraska Brass Concert

Plan to attend—the Nebraska Brass is coming to Calvary on Sunday, November, 26th at 3:00pm. Refreshments will be served at intermission. This will be their Christmas concert-what a wonderful way to begin the season of Christmas with your family and friends.

Carol Joy Holling Early Bird Special

Register by January 31st, 2018 to save \$50 on next summer's full—week sessions (Sorry no discounts for Taste of Camp or Mini sessions). Sending more than one child to camp? Receive an additional \$25 discount for each child of the same family attending a full— week or mini session. Discounts are applied to final balance not deposits. To register talk to Pastor Kim or go to caroljoy-holling.org



Mother & Tween Daughter Retreat

November 18-19

This retreat is tailored toward 10-13 year old daughters and their moms. Join us as we spend quality time together and learn about what it means to express yourself in a healthy, faith-filled way. Learn more or register at CJHCenter.org/MotherDaughter

Giving Tree

Coming this month is the ESU Giving Tree. You can select a tag from the tree with child information (age and gift ideas) and shop for that child. When you take a tag, be sure to sign your name to the sheet on the table so that we know who took each tag. If you have any questions please talk to Tina Watts or Kay Jones. And watch the bulletin for information about when to return the UNWRAPPED gifts to Calvary.



MEET A MEMBER

Calvary Lutheran Church
Nebraska Synod, ELCA
950 129th Road
Stromsburg, NE 68666
Church Phone: (402)764-5981

Doug Jones, Council President
Diana Johnson, Organist
Brianna Schoch, Secretary
Tina Watts, Sunday School
LeeAnn Willhoft, Custodian

Council Members:

Linda Fuhr, Doug Jones, Bill Carlstrom, Nick Nicholson,
Carolyn Nielsen, Chris Smith,
Deb Swedenburg
All Calvary members, Ministers

Rev. Kimberly Belken
Pastor

(402) 764-0481 (cell)
(402) 764-5961 (parsonage)
(402) 764-5981 (church office)
kimberlyrbelken@gmail.com

Zion Lutheran Church
Nebraska Synod, ELCA
202 Sherman
Benedict NE 68316

Gregg Bolton, Council President
Yvonne Stauber, Organist
Chris Jarosz, Sunday School

Council Members:

Gregg Bolton, Todd Schoch, Dawn Kush
All of Zion members, Ministers



Meet Gina Schoch:

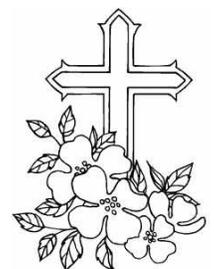
Gina was born November 19th in Osceola, Nebraska. She grew up outside of Benedict on a farm with 2 sisters and 3 brothers where she has a lot of memories. She attended Bradshaw Public Schools where she graduated. She then married her longtime friend that she met at Sunday

School, Todd Schoch. They were blessed with 3 kids Justin, Jill, and Jordan. They now have a wonderful daughter-in-law Bri and son-in-law Nick. She also has been blessed with 4 grandkids Tierney (10), Krayton (7), Layne (8), and Graham (4). These grandkids keep her very busy. Gina and Todd have farmed since they have been married and they also have owned Crossroads Awards in York for 20 years. Gina enjoys being outside, and a new hobby she just started is making homemade beer. A goal that Gina has is to start traveling more, she would love to see more places.

Gina has been a member of Zion since she was born, she was baptized and confirmed at Zion. The things she really likes about Zion is the close family like congregation. She enjoys the relationship that Calvary and Zion share, being able to have Bible studies together and just working together to make both churches work. She likes the opportunities that the Synod offers for Spiritual Growth. She over the years she has been very involved in the church, serving as a VBS and Sunday School teacher, in worship, on council, and being involved at the synod level.

Deep Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Irene Sundberg. Irene entered into life everlasting on October 24th, 2017. Rest eternal grant her and let light perpetual shine on her.



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS



Lyndsey Bolton
Dorothy Ehlers
Melissa Forsberg
Denny Johnson
Lenore Kessler
June Larson
Elvin Reetz

Imo Richardson
Harvey Schlegelmilch
Vance & Elaine Toline
Jan Wells-Bachman

- Genesis House and Living Waters Rescue Mission, Blue Valley Action
- Houses for Health recipients.
- Table Grace Café
- Bishop Brian Maas and the Nebraska Synod staff
- Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and all ELCA congregations and members
- Pastor Bob Bryan and the Nebraska Synod Prison Ministry
- Our ELCA Partner Synod—Pacifica Synod
- Our companion synods in Tanzania and Argentina
- Family and friends of Lori Ehlers
- Family and friend of Irene Sundberg

To request prayers call

Calvary: Jan Ernst 402-747-8041

Zion: LuAnn Bolton 402-710-8708

ZION WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

NOVEMBER

Communion Assistant: Todd Schoch

Usher: Gregg Bolton

Greeter: LuAnn Bolton

Reader:

5—Gina Schoch, 12—Gregg Bolton, 19—Todd Schoch, 26—

JoAnne Bolton

Acolyte:

5—Lyndsey Bolton, 12—Isaac Reetz, 19—Harley Martin, 26—

Tierney Schoch

ANNIVERSARIES

CALVARY:

November 2nd
Monty & Cheryl Jones

November 7th
Kerri & Jesse Klein
Greg & Tracy Dittmer

November 10th
Bryce & Janet Nielsen

November 15th
Mark & Tammy Jones

November 19th
Kent & Gia Adelson

November 23rd
Tom & Mary Stevens

November 25th
Dave & Janelle Udey

BIRTHDAYS

CALVARY:

02—Jill Bush
Kathi Jones
08—Erica Twarling
09—Kristen Bush
14—Amanda Kobus
Doug Jones
16—Dustin Noble
21—Todd Hanquist
Deb Seymour
22—Andie Oquist
Nathan Peterson
25—Wayne Johnson
29—Katie Spale

ZION:

19—Gina Schoch
25—Darrell Bolton



CALVARY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

November

Assistant Ministers— Cheryl Jones

Scripture Reader—Monty Jones

Ushers— Carol Nicholson & Roxanne Czarnick

Acolyte—Colby Nelson

Altar Care— Carol Jones

Bell Ringer— Monty Jones

November 2017

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1	2	3	4
			6p Confirmation 7p Council Meeting			
5 8:30a Zion Holy Communion Worship 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Calvary Holy Communion Worship 3p Youth Group	6	7 7p Memorial & Gift Committee Meeting	8 9:30a Join the Conversation Bible Study 6p Confirmation 7p Men's Bible Study 7p Ruth's WELCA Circle	9 2p Miriam's WELCA Circle	10 9a Mary Anna's WELCA Circle	11
12 8:30a Zion Worship 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Calvary Worship	13	14	15 9:30a Join the Conversation Bible Study 6p Confirmation	16	17	18
19 8:30a Zion Holy Communion Worship 9:30a Sunday School 10:30a Calvary Holy Communion Worship 5:30p Benedict Thanksgiving meal & Service	20	21	22 9:30a Join the Conversation Bible Study	23  Happy Thanksgiving	24	25
26 8:30a Zion Worship 9:30a Sunday School 10:30 Calvary Worship 3p NE Brass Concert	27	28	29	30		

Know God, Love God, Share God's Love

COUNCIL NOTES

Council Meeting Newsletter updates - October 2017

- A joint Bible Study with Zion will be held on four Thursdays in October, beginning October 12. They will begin at 7 pm. The Study will be based on 1st Corinthians. Bring a friend or neighbor and come for the study and fellowship
- Join the Conversation Bible study is every Wednesday morning at church beginning at 9:30 am Scripture for the upcoming Sunday is read and reviewed. Please join the group when you can
- Service of Common Prayer was October 1 with Father Val preaching. This was a joint service with St Vincent's and Swede Home, there was a good attendance for this meaningful service
- Cluster wide Reformation service will be at First Lutheran Church in York on October 29 at 2 pm.
- Worship and Music committee is planning a Reformation hymn sing based on the five solas of the Reformation. Those being: Grace alone, Faith alone, Christ alone, Scripture alone and Glory to God alone)
- Confirmation has started with mentors selected, Cheryl Jones will be Colby's mentor and Rick Jones will be Kolton's mentor. Both boys have selected projects and are finalizing details.
- Plans have started for the 2018 mission trip, along with St Paul's and Calvary, Salem and Genoa have indicated interest in joining the group. God's Work, our Hands continue to serve
- Council passed a motion to appoint a committee to work with Faller's Landscaping on tree selection for the church property
- Council passed a motion to channel the Disaster Fund disbursement through Thrivent to obtain matching funds
- Gutter installation on the church property has been completed. New lights in the basement Sunday School room and hallway have been installed. A dusk to down light fixture for the kitchen/Sunday School building entrances will be installed
- The bell tower needs some repair, and those needs will be addressed
- Council approved the appointment of Kay Jones to complete fill Craig Swedenburg's vacancy on the endowment committee. This appointment will only be until the end of 2017.

Treasurer's Report

September, 2017

Beginning Balance	\$6205.06
<u>Offering:</u>	
General Offering	5778.00
ELCA Disaster Relief	1244.00
Sunday School Offering	26.00
ELCA Mission Share	185.00
Zion for July Share	<u>1699.39</u>
	8932.39
<u>Expenses:</u>	
Vanco eCheck Monthly Fee	8.09
Youth Group Gathering	19.56
Wireless Doorbell; parsonage	29.96
Reformed Worship	30.00
Office Supplies	70.34
Malware; Pastor's PC	89.66
Postage Expense	98.00
Christ in Our Home	116.90
Sikes Pest Control	125.00
Clergystuff.com	149.00
Office Net Quarterly Agreement	237.53
NE Synod ELCA—Rural Internship Fund	750.00
NE Synod ELCA—Mission Share	1450.00
Service Master Clean of York	1663.00
Zion Benedict July Share	1726.32
<u>Utilities:</u>	
Church:	339.82
Parsonage:	196.13
<u>Salaries:</u>	
Pastor	2176.41
Mileage	331.28
SECA	216.41
Portico Benefits	995.83
Theological Conference	112.00
Diana	423.52
LeeAnn	230.87
Bri	<u>523.63</u>
	12109.26
Balance as of September 30th, 2017	<u><u>\$3028.19</u></u>

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

**Mission Statement: Know God, Love God,
Share God's Love**



Guiding Principles:

1. **Jesus is Lord and Savior**
2. **All are welcome in this place.**
3. **Serving in love with generosity and hospitality**
4. **Provide an atmosphere for spiritual growth and reflection.**
5. **Teaching and sharing God's Word with joy**
6. **Mutual respect in relationships**

Return Service Requested

Stromsburg, NE 68666
950 Road 129th

**CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
NEBRASKA SYNOD, ELCA**

.....IN SACRED PLACES.....