



OCTOBER 2020

## ...IN SACRED PLACES...

### CELEBRATING MINISTRY OF CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

#### *Message from Sister Anne*



If there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Philippians 2:1-2

What does it mean to be the Church? This is a question that the early church struggled to answer. In several of Paul's letters to the newly formed congregations, he addressed the arguments and dissension that directed the attention away from Christ. There were disagreements over what they should eat and how to eat it. Who should be allowed to sit with them? How should they worship? They had already forgot that Jesus taught about these issues. Many of these same arguments are going on today.

We are living in a time of great dissention and division. The politicians spend more time making each other a villain rather than debating issues that affect all of us.

Where is the church in all of this? How do we conduct ourselves when talking to others? Do your words reflect the love of Christ? Do you put others before your own interests?

#### *Message from Sister Anne (continued)*

This scripture should be the model for our behavior in everything we do including Church Council meetings, Quilting groups, teaching Sunday School and going to the grocery store. Many congregations spend a lot of money on signs and advertisements when it is their witness to Christ that will bring people to church. Treating people with love and respect as Jesus taught us will grow the church.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you this past year. I will continue to pray for your partnership in ministry. God bless you on this journey.

## Confirmation

On Reformation Sunday, October 25—three of our members will confirm their faith during the worship service.

Please keep Ethan Fjell, Kylee Krol and Kelby Neujahr in your prayers and join us in worship on Sunday the 25th.

# Announcements

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

*Please place items you wish to donate in the basket located in the front entry of the church. Oct. items go to*

***Blue Valley Community Action***



The October quilt date will be confirmed by Penny Udey, for now it is on the calendar for October 22

Some restrictions may apply . Please confirm with Penny before you attend.



## W.E.L.C.A. NEWS

\*Service for month of October is an offering for Adopt-a-Quilt or donate a blanket to be used for keeping the needy warm.

\*Altar care for October will be Jean Waller. November will be Miriam Circle.

\*Flowers in October will be by Mary Anna circle. November & December will be by Miriam circle.

\*Quilting fun and fellowship will be October 22. Please join us for the last group quilting day of the year. We will plan to begin again in 2021.

\*Offerings can be given at your circle meetings, mailed to Bonnie Carlson, or left in her box in the church office. Thank you.

### OCTOBER

*Hostess/Dessert Bible Study*

Mary Anna-10/8	LaVerne	<i>(not listed)</i>
Miriam – 10/9	Gloria	<i>(not listed)</i>
Ruth – 10/14	Carolyn	Carolyn

God's Blessings to you,

Cheryl

**\*\*Something to ponder:** this “*Daily Grace*” message by Susie Gamelin from the June 2020 issue of Gather magazine:

*“Agree to Disagree:*

*It's okay to disagree about important matters. It can even be a relief to agree that we disagree. The disagreements that I encounter in my daily life are about differing societal, political, and religious viewpoints. For years I countered other people's different ideas with defensiveness.*

*Now I find responses that are very different from mine to be interesting.*

*I want to assure people that I have heard their opinion. And I want to make it clear that I don't agree. My first call is to love people as they are and hope that God's call to love everyone as they are will grow in those I disagree with. Is this always an easy job? You know the answer.”*



Dear members of Calvary,  
 Thank you so much for the birthday card. I had a wonderful birthday weekend in Charleston.  
 I miss being in church on Sundays and talking with you all on the way out. My trainings are going very well and I'm enjoying my time here.  
 I miss you all and hope to back mid to late November.  
 Take care and be safe,  
 Brody

If you would like to send Brody a card or note, here is his address:

FN IENN BRODRYK  
 2036-M  
 101 NNPTC CIRCLE  
 GOOSE CREEK SC 29445

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If anyone has pumpkins or gourds they would like to add to the front planters, please feel free to do so. They may be added to the flowers, or stacked around the planter base. THANK YOU



## RECIPES

### Dear Abby's Pecan Pie

I brought a pecan pie to church one of the first Sundays we joined Swede Home – Marlowe Johnson so kindly said it was his favorite. Marlowe went on to become one of many, of our dear Swede Home friends. I made a pie this weekend, and it brought back so many memories of time spent with a one-of-a-kind friend. In his memory, I share the recipe. I got the recipe from my late sister, and she got it from an advice column called “Dear Abby”. Linda

1 cup white corn syrup  
 1 cup brown sugar  
 1/3 cup melted oleo or butter  
 Bring to a boil – in Microwave or on stove top.

Cool slightly.

Add 3 beaten eggs and mix well  
 Add a dash of vanilla and a pinch of salt  
 Add 1 heaping cup of shelled, chopped pecans

Pour into an unbaked 9” pie shell and bake for 350 degrees for 45-50 minutes

May serve with whip cream or ice cream



## *A glimpse into the past*

### *A time of Tribulation*

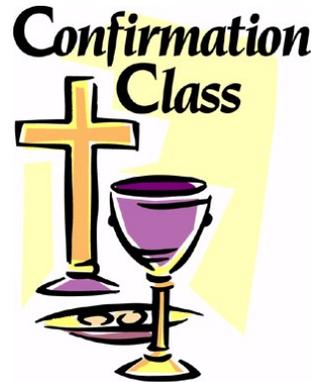
Perhaps something should be said about the tribulations through which this congregation passed during pioneer days. The grasshopper plague of 1876 was somewhat like the scourge which was visited upon Egypt during the Pharaoh of the Oppression. The insects came out of the north west like a great storm-cloud which by noon had darkened the skies. The fields and prairies had been destroyed, leaving the settlers poverty-stricken and despondent. Only one tree on the church property survived that dreadful day. It was saved by an awesome bit of red flannel which had been wrapped around its slender trunk. The frantic settlers tried to save other trees by wrapping quilts around them. However, when they came out from their homes to find out if the trees were saved, they found that the quilts also had been eaten. Even the hardwood of the plows did not stop the grasshoppers where they were at their worst.

That winter and the following spring, the entire faced a serious health problem. Because of no vegetable food and the lack of needed vitamins, scurvy took its toll. Strong men and women were compelled to shove chairs before them in walking across a room. An old Navy doctor at Columbus, a trading post 35 miles away advised the people of the Swede Home settlement to trade their salt port for vegetables, and this advice probably saved the lives of many.

Reprinted from *Triumph in Tribulation, the Story of a Pioneer Nebraska Church*

By Alfield E. Franzen, Pastor of Calvary Church, Stromsburg NE

## YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Confirmation class will be held following worship services on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. Each class will be 1 hour. Any changes to the schedule, the families will be notified by email or a group text.

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The youth and adult forum Sunday school classes began on Sunday September 13. Tina and Cheryl are the teachers for the youth this year. It is never too late to join them at 9:15 am each Sunday.

Wayne leads the adult Forum with discussion on articles from the Living Lutheran magazine. Their class also starts at 9:15 am each Sunday in the church basement.

## Reformation Sunday

### What is it? Why does it matter?



#### REFORMATION DAY

mation Sunday, and why should we care?

#### History

What follows is a very simplified explanation of complex theological, political, and economic events that all coincided.

In 1517, across Europe, the Roman Catholic Church was engaged in one of the greatest fundraisers in all of history. If a person – out of contrition for their sins and as a sign of repentance – made a financial gift to help with the building Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome, then the church would furnish that person with a certificate acknowledging that gift and promising that they or their loved ones would be freed from a portion of the misery expected in the afterlife.

In short, the church at that time taught that even those bound for heaven had to be cleansed of their earthly sins and this cleansing (purging) in the afterlife took place in a place called Purgatory. The certificates offered by the church (called "Indulgences") promised to lessen this time of cleansing for oneself or others who have already died. There were some very nuanced explanations of this practice at the time.

And there were other very crass explanations that basically amounted to people paying to be forgiven.

November 1st was an important day for the selling and buying of these indulgences, known as All Saints Day on the church's calendar.

Every year on the last Sunday in October, many churches set aside the day as "Reformation Sunday." If you didn't grow up with this practice, you may wonder where this tradition comes from, and why some congregations continue to practice it. So ... what is Refor-

The day before a German Monk named Martin Luther posted a list of 95 Theses – 95 reasons that he objected to this practice of selling indulgences. Along with other writings by Martin Luther, those 95 Reasons went viral.

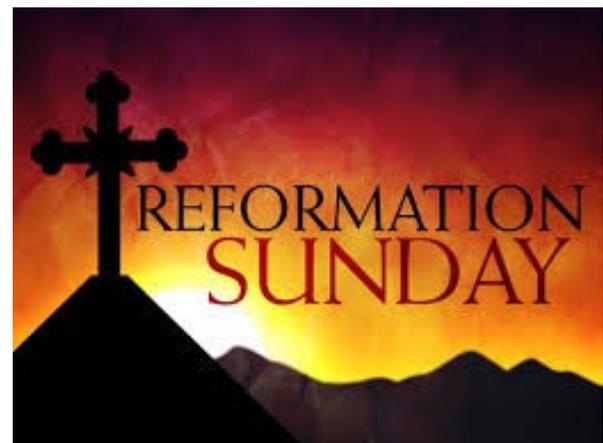
Luther insisted that we are not forgiven because of anything we do – including the buying of Indulgences or doing enough good work. ***Instead, we are forgiven because of who God is.*** We are loved and forgiven because God is full of grace and mercy. Salvation is not for sale, it is a free gift from God.

It's not an "If... Then..." As in, "If we do this, think this believe this, then God loves and forgives us." Rather it is a "Because... Therefore..." As in, "Because God is love and offers grace to all through Christ, we are loved and forgiven and given the gift of new and abundant life."

His teachings and writings got Martin Luther kicked out of the church. But he didn't go alone. Others agreed with him, and after his death those who agreed with Luther became known as Lutherans and also as Protestants.

Every Protestant church traces their roots back to this moment in history.

Credit to: Spirit of the Hills, ELCA congregation in Spicewood, TX



*Meet a Member*

Hi, I'm Jennifer Fjell. I have lived in Nebraska most of my life. I grew up in Columbus and graduated from Columbus High School in 2000. I have an older brother and three younger sisters. My parents live in Columbus, Nebraska, own, and operate Columbus Monument. My grandpa also lives in Columbus and retired from working for the gas company in Columbus, so over the years I met a number people being with my parents and grandparents.

I graduated from Central Community College with my Associates Degree in Nursing, and then went on to complete my Bachelor's Degree of Nursing from Midland Lutheran. I have a certification in Wound, Ostomy & Continence Care I received from Metropolitan State University, and am a certified Lymphedema Therapist received from Norton School of Lymphedema. This December I will graduate with my Master's Degree of Nursing Education from Nebraska Wesleyan University. My entire nursing career has been at Columbus Community Hospital and Annie Jeffrey Memorial Hospital.

My husband, Ryan, and I have four children: Elise- a freshman at Northeast Community College, Carter- a senior at Shelby-Rising City High School, Ethan- a freshman at Shelby-Rising City High School and Elijah a 7<sup>th</sup> grader at Shelby-Rising City High School. The boys all play football and wrestle, so our fall and winters are filled with many games and wrestling meets cheering them on! In the spring and summer, Carter and Ethan golf and Eli plays baseball, so many more opportunities to watch them play! The boys enjoy fishing and outside activities. When we are able, we all enjoy camping and traveling to warm places.

In my free time, I enjoy running and being with friends and family. I also enjoy baking and some sewing, when time permits.

I enjoy watching and helping with the youth, which are our future. I have always enjoyed being able to help with Sunday school and activities with the youth .

**Calvary Lutheran Church  
Nebraska Synod, ELCA  
950 129th Road  
Stromsburg, NE 68666  
Church Phone: (402)764-5981  
www.calvaryswedehomechurch.com  
Email calvaryswedehomechurch@gmail.com**

**Sister Anne Hall, Interim Minister  
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**

**Sister Anne Hall, contact number 308-249-3810**

**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 her cell-phone 402-366-2091, text is preferred or leave a voice message**

## We Reach to all our faith family in prayer and celebration

### REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS



Melissa Forsberg  
Janice Forsberg  
Denny Johnson  
Linda Johnson  
June Larson

Elaine Toline  
Jan Wells-Bachman

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 congrega-  
tions and members
- Confirmands, Kelby Neujahr, Ethan Fjell,  
Kylee Kohl on their Confirmation OCTOBER  
25
- 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 Argen-  
tina
- Students and educators as they return to classes

To request prayers call  
**Calvary: Jan Ernst 402-747-8041**



Daylight Savings ends the first Sunday in November,  
November 1st

### ANNIVERSARIES

#### CALVARY:

#### OCTOBER

06 Mike and Deb Cramer

15 Wendy & Kelley  
Shafenberg

27 Ryan and Jennifer Fjell



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### BIRTHDAYS

#### CALVARY:

#### OCTOBER

03 Clayton Watts

05 Tamara Rowse

07 Andrew Adelson

09 Kent Adelson

09 Elaine Toline

10 Randy Lott

18 Ava Ernst

18 Clerissa Udey

20 Corinne Adelson

21 Nate Johnson

21 Peter Jones

22 Gabe Hanquist

24 Corey Watts

27 Yancy Krol

28 Rick Jones

21 Anita Haack

31 Marvin Larson

### THANK YOU!!

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

### OCTOBER

Assistant Minister – Sandy Johnston  
Scripture Reader – Lynn Hofmann  
Ushers – Randy and Fran Lott  
Altar/Communion – Jean Waller  
Acolyte – Peyton Hofmann  
Bell Ringer – Colby Nelson

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

# October 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p>* Sunday Oct 4, council meeting following wor- ship service</p>				1	2	3
<p>4 9:15 am Youth and adult SS 10:30 Worship with Holy Communion *</p>	5	6	7	8 MaryAnna circle	9 Miriam Circle	10
<p>11 9:15 am Youth and adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 am Confirmation</p>	12	13	14 Ruth Circle	15	16	17
<p>18 9:15 am Youth and adult SS 10:30 Worship with Holy Communion</p>	19	20	21	22 Quilt Day	23	24
<p>25 9:15 am Youth and adult SS 10:30 Worship Reformation and Confirmation</p>	26	27	<p>28</p> 	29	30	31 Set clocks back 1 hr tonight!





**Know God, Love God, Share God's Love**

**COUNCIL NOTES**

Council met September 6. Present: Sandy, Dan O, Lynn, Fran, Todd, Kent, Sister Anne Hall.

Council discussed an update from the property committee regarding greasing the bell tower and sound panels in the Fellowship Hall.

Council briefly discussed Nebraska entering Phase 4 September 14.

Council discussed moving forward with communion. Beginning Sunday, September 6 communion will be conducted the first and third Sunday of the month. Members will go to the communion table in single file and/or family units, dismissed by the ushers.

Council approved singing during service to begin October 4 ONLY IF MEMBER IS WEARING A MASK.

The call procedure is moving forward. The preliminary profile has been sent to the Synod to review. A call committee has been established with Deb Hanquist, Randy Lott, and Tom Hofmann. Council is working with First English in Rising City during the call process.

Council has approved the contract for the Cory Kush/Colton Cooper wedding September 26, 2020.

Confirmation class will be held twice a month after church service. There are four students in their second year. An invitation has been sent to potential 1<sup>st</sup> year students.

The council approved for the Evangelical and Outreach committee to schedule a highway pick up. The committee is waiting confirmation from the Highway Department.

Funeral service was held for Orpha Fjell at St. Paul Lutheran church on Thursday, September 3 with burial at Swede Home Cemetery.

The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer.



**Treasurer's Report**

	<b>August 2020</b>
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$11,610.37</b>
<b>Offerings:</b>	
General Offering	7,323.00
Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Services	5.00
LWR Care Kits	430.00
ELCA Mission Share	250.00
First Lutheran R.C. July Share	1,614.47
	<hr/>
	9,622.47
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Vanco eCheck Monthly Fee	8.79
Cody's Computer Maintenance Plan	34.99
Rolls for Polk Co RPPD Appreciation	50.00
Postage Stamps	56.00
Wet Vac for church basements	88.00
CCLI Copyright Coverage A	137.00
Office Net; Contract Base & usage	141.39
Lift Rental to clean church gutters	200.00
LWR Care Kits	430.00
Nebraska Synod, ELCA - Mission Share	1,540.00
First Lutheran R.C. August Share	1,014.20
<b>Utilities:</b>	
Church	314.97
Parsonage	195.87
<b>Salaries:</b>	
Pastor	1,388.78
Mileage	231.84
SECA	0.00
Portico Benefits	424.45
Supply Pastor Sarah Ruch	271.60
Diana	448.54
LeeAnn	236.64
Linda	688.13
	<hr/>
	7,901.19
<b>Balance as of August 31, 2020:</b>	<b><u>\$13,331.65</u></b>

\*This page is only seen by Calvary Members

## **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.....