September, 2017

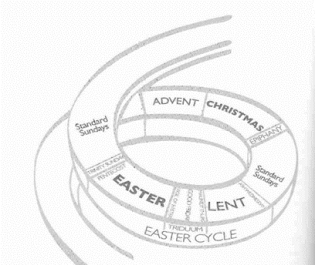
...In sacred places...

CELEBRATING MINISTRIES OF CALVARY AND ZION LUTHERAN CHURCHES

Message from Pastor Kim

Have you ever wondered why we use blue paraments in the weeks leading up to Christmas and white at Christmas instead of red and green? Or why we celebrate Christmas for 12 days and Easter for 50? Or what the great three days (Triduum) are all about?

If so, then you will love one of our focuses for this coming year. Beginning this month, we will be taking a look at each season of the church year and what it means for the life of the church. This is important to us because each festival and season in the liturgical (or church) year teach us about God's presence in our lives, in the world, in the church community, and in one another. Observing these festivals and seasons in our life together gives us an opportunity to recall the many things that God has done (and is doing!) for God's people.



According to Gail Ramshaw and Mons Teig, "A good visiual image of the way that the church year works in the community of faith is the spiral. The spiral suggests bringing the past with its revelatory, saving, and blessing acts of God into the present moment, even as we are thrust into God's promised future." This spiral provides a common rhythm to our life together.

Along with focusing on the church year together, we will also focus on discipleship. Discipleship is following Jesus, growing in relationship with God and others, and through the Holy Spirit, joining in God's work in the world. With each season of the church year that we focus on, we will also focus on a discipleship practice (or two!) and a corresponding gift of discipleship. Because of how the

(Continued on page 2)

Thank you . . .

A thank you was missed in the August newsletter, my sincere apologizes.

Swede Home continued our Ice Cream Social at MWCH the following Monday afternoon. Our guests just rave about the ice cream and how good it was! Of course, they enjoy the toppings and cake too. Thank you to everyone who helped serve and clean up. Bringing them a special treat and enjoying fellowship together is definitely one way to show God's love. Mary Stevens

I just wanted to say thank you for all the supplies you gave me for my classroom it was greatly appreciated! I can't wait for the first day!
Thank you,
Kelsey Papa—5th grade teacher @ Cross County

Thank you for the supplies you gave me for my classroom! It all be very useful!
Thank you,
Autumn Capler—1st grade teacher @ Cross County

Dear Friends in Christ,
Thank you very much for your wonderful hospitality on Sunday when I came to preach and lead worship. I enjoyed visiting with you and sharing the Good News about Followers of Christ Prison Ministry and look forward to visiting again. Please let me know if any of you would like to attend worship at NCCW in York or a volunteer once a month. We would love to have you with us.
Rev. Robert Bryan

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(Continued from Pastor Kim's Message on page 1)
church year shapes our life of faith, it is a great vehicle for looking at our life of faith together.

September (and October and November) is part of Ordinary Time or Standard Sundays. It is a season in which we hear a variety of stories to get an overall sense of Jesus' life and ministry. It is a season in which we are also challenged to live as faithful followers of Christ. As we live into that challenge together we will find that discipleship brings us the gift of community.

It is an exciting time to be the church and I look forward to this journey together as we look at a Year of Discipleship!

In Christ,

Pr. Kim

Keeping Time: The Church's Years: Using Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Volume 3. Copyright 2009, Augsburg Fortress.

Thank you, Thank you…

Dear Calvary Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of $182.25 to ELCA World Hunger. With this gift you are providing education and advocacy, water and sanitation, livestock and agriculture, health care and microloans.

With your gifts you are making possible ministry and projects that are transformative, holistic and intergrated. With your gifts you are working here and in 62 countries around the world. With your gifts you are walking with communities to address hunger and poverty in a way that barriers are broken down, inequality is decreased, and relationships are whole and flourishing.

Thank you for this gift and all your gifts. Thank you for your faithful generosity and for encouraging other to join ELCA World Hunger in the fight against hunger and poverty. Thank you for living into God's words of justice and mercy and for joining with the whole church to love and serve one another.

In God's grace,

Rev. Daniel Rift

W.E.L.C.A. News

September

	Hostess/Dessert	*Bible Study*
Mary Anna	Irene Sundberg	Irene Sundberg
Miriam	Wanda Larson	Diana Johnson
Ruth	Janelle Udey	Janelle Udey

Bible Study: *Gather* - September

Service: Columbus Women's Shelter (Monetary offering & will try to obtain a tangible list of needs)

October

	Hostess/Dessert	*Bible Study*
Mary Anna	Lenore Kessler	Lenore Kessler
Miriam	Diana Johnson	Venida Carlstrom
Ruth	Cheryl Jones	Cheryl Jones

Bible Study: *Gather* - October

Service: Donate a Blanket/Adopt-A-Quilt **(ref. pg 15)**
For Project Comfort!!!!

Thank You…

Calvary Lutheran Church,
On behalf of High Plains Community Schools, thank you for your generous donation of bean bag chairs. Many teachers are exploring the use of flexible seating. The ideas is to create a more comfortable environment that helps students be their best learning selves. The students at HPCS will benefit from your contributions both now and in the future.

Sincerely,
Brian Tonniges
Superintendent

Mission and Ministry Update

Ahmed Fatallah is a farmer in the community of Kafr Abo Shenba, a city in Bani Suwayf region of northeastern Egypt. Ahmed cared for his lands the same way his family had for generations. With changes in the environment, Ahmed found his farming methods difficult to sustain. "I would buy seeds from local merchants and prepare the land using traditional agricultural methods. It was very unproductive and expensive," Ahmed said.

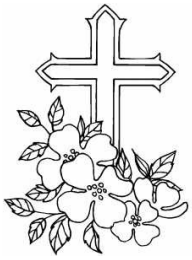
He attended a seminar and learned alternative farming techniques—techniques that reduce cost and waste—from the Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services, or CEOSS, an organization that reaches about 2 million Egyptians a year in more than 100 rural and urban communities. Supported by gifts to ELCA World Hunger, CEOSS teaches farmers modern agricultural methods including using compost (organic fertilizer) to decrease the amount of chemical fertilizers the farmers use.

"I worked with CEOSS to implement a compost model," Ahmed said. "It helped me produce safe, good crops and save a lot of money. I learned to recycle agricultural wastes in a good manner."

The new techniques have helped Ahmed and his family increase their income. Today, his children are enrolled in and regularly attend school, the family has healthcare, and Ahmed is more confident about his future.

Deepest Sympathies

Our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Richard (Dick) Anderson who passed away on August 22nd, 2017.



Swede Home Food Pantry

The Evangelism and Outreach Team oversees a nonperishable food and personal care item collection. You are welcome to bring donations at any time. ***Please place items you wish to donate in the basket located in the entry way of the church.***

Items are usually delivered the last week of the month. In May, your donations will go to Genesis House.

Most recipients of Genesis House are women and children in need. They are in need of Household items: Laundry detergent, tall kitchen sized trash bags, TP, Clorox, gallon sized zip lock bags, light bulbs, AA batteries, postage stamps. Personal Care: Body wash, Kleenex , children's toothpaste, deodorant, children and adult ibuprofen and Tylenol, sunscreen lotion. Food and Grocery Items needed are canned meats, regular coffee, boxed food, taco shells and seasonings, flour, sugar, mayo, salad dressing, pancake mix and syrup, cooking oil, dry packages of gravy and sauce mixes, canned fruit and juices, canned mixed vegetables carrots, (they have plenty of beans, peas, and corn at this time), small boxes of Velveeta, cake and brownie mix, frosting, tea bags, Kool-Aid/lemonade. Healthy Foods/Snacks for Children: microwave meals/entrees, instant oatmeal, granola/cereal bars, pudding/fruit cups, fruit juice in small boxes, (at this time we have plenty of regular boxes of cereal), dry and evaporated milk.

Money to purchase fresh foods occasionally bread, milk, and fruit.

Funds support general operating expenses, utilities.

All of the items we donate are greatly appreciated by the recipients as they help meet critical needs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

500th Anniversary of Reformation

To commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in spirit of mutual reconciliation, repentance, and hope, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Omaha and the NE Synod of ELCA are hosting a prayer service at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church (2650 Farnam) on Monday, September, 11th, at 7pm. If you are interested in attending, please let Pastor Kim know so that we can arrange car pool.

Mark your Calendar

Highway Cleanup will be Sunday, October, 8th time is still 4:00pm. Please plan to come out and help and then enjoy fellowship following. We will meet at Monty and Cheryl's home.

Join the Conversation Bible Study

Join the Conversation Bible Study will begin again on Wednesday, September, 13th, at 9:30am in the fellowship hall of Calvary. Join us as we take a look at the upcoming lectionary texts. All are welcome.

Common Prayer

Calvary Lutheran and St. Vincent's Catholic invite you all to a service of Common Prayer on Sunday, October, 1st at 4pm at Calvary. Father Val Bartek will be preaching. Fellowship and coffee will follow the service.

Confirmation Calvary

Confirmation orientation at Calvary will be held Wednesday, September 13th, at 6pm in the fellowship hall. Confirmation is a two year program for middle school students. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Kim.

Rally Sunday for Calvary

Rally Sunday for Calvary will be held Sunday, September 10th. Join us for Sunday School!

Rally Sunday for Benedict Community Sunday School

Rally Sunday for Benedict Community Sunday School will be held Sunday, September, 10th with coffee, juice, and donuts following worship in the Park. All are welcome! There is still a need for teachers and subs if you are interested in helping out please contact Chris Jarosz at 402-366-4860.

Calvary Church Clean-Up Day…

There will be a church clean-up day for Calvary on September 9th, at 8:30am. Please mark your calendars and plan to help out.

Youth Group

Calling all youth grades 6-12! Youth group kick off will be Sunday, September, 10th at the 4th Street Coffee House at 5:30pm. Come get to know other youth (we will be meeting with youth from 3 other congregations!) and have a great evening with games, food, and fellowship. If you have any questions contact Pr. Kim.

MOPS—Mother's of Preschoolers

You're invited to Popsicles in the Park on September, 5th at 10am to kick off the MOPS year. MOPS is for any mom with kids ages 0-5! It's a place of friendship , authentic community, support, encouragement, and growth. During our regular meetings we enjoy brunch & coffee, conversations, relevant speakers, fun crafts, play dates, and even monthly Mom's night out adventures! MOPS regularly meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, September—May from 9-11am at the E Free Church in Stromsburg.

Thank you….

Dear Friends of Swedehome,

Summer is going by so fast and I've been busy, and sometimes I am late in sending my cards! We've been blessed with two special delivers of your gifts this summer in June and July. All very useful and needed items. Your gifts are always come of the best we receive—the special food and supplies for babies and children—all the good food and household items. You seem to find some very unquie items, too. I have not seen those "Meals of Hope" or the "Kids Against Hunger" rice meals—thank you! The baby quilts are so beautiful and you sent very good quality items—we appreciate your consideration for our clients who struggle to make ends meet! Always enjoy the visits with you—thank you Pastor Kim, Cheryl, and Fran you making the tirp to David City.

Sincerely,

Pat and Clients at Genesis House

Pictures from Mission to Trip to Colorado

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

Doug Jones, Council President
Diana Johnson, Organist
Brianne 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 a Member

Meet LuAnn Bolton!

LuAnn was born in the "old" Stromsburg Hospital on December 9th, 1955 to Charles and Martha (Gulbrandson) Huggler. She was 1 of the three children they were blessed with, she has one brother Robin (who passed away when he was kid), and one sister Jodi.

LuAnn lived in York until she started school, then they moved to Benedict, where she attended Benedict Public Schools and graduated in 1974. She graduated and married Gregg Bolton in June of 1974, they lived in York and she worked for Columbus Federal Savings and Loan for 2 years. In 1975 they move to Benedict to engage in the family farming.

They moved out to the farm in 1978, where LuAnn was a homemaker, helped with farming, as her in—laws stepped away from farming Gregg and LuAnn have taken over and now do all the farming together. They work well together and enjoy the time together. LuAnn and Gregg were blessed with 2 daughters Sara and Susan. They have been blessed with 2 sons-in-law's Chad and Jeff. They also have been blessed with 4 grandchildren Lilie (16), Ethan (12), Tobey (12), and Adrienne (9).

LuAnn grew up Methodist where she was baptized, confirmed, and married. In 1975 she became a member of Zion where she has had the opportunity to serve as Sunday School Superintendent, President and Treasurer of WELCA, Church Council, and VBS. One thing she really loves about Zion is the closeness of the congregation and how they are family oriented. Everyone really cares about you and takes care of you as a family. She really enjoys Pastor Kim.

Some of LuAnn's interests are cars and NHRA Drag Races. She loves to travel, she has been on 2 cruises and is planning her next one. She also enjoys being around friends and playing cards.

LuAnn lives life by this:

Go to Church, take time for prayer, the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh, love you life and what you've been given, it is not accidental. Search for your purpose and do it as best as you can. Forgive, it frees the soul. Recognize the special people you've been blessed to know. Live for today, enjoy the moment.

Remember in your prayers

Lyndsey Bolton
Dorothy Ehlers
Fred & Lori Ehlers
Janise Forsberg
Melissa Forsberg
Denny Johnson
Lenore Kessler
June Larson
Elvin Reetz
Imo Richardson
Harvey Schlegelmilch
Vance & Elaine Toline

- 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

To request prayers call
Calvary: Jan Ernst 402-747-8041
Zion: LuAnn Bolton 402-710-8708

Anniversaries

Calvary:

September 8th
Paul & Deborah Ernst

September 12th
Becky & Brandon Nielsen

September 18th
Jessica & Dustin Noble

September 22nd
Steve & Kris Udey

September 25th
Jim & Bonnie Carlson
Dennis & Marj Johnson

September 26th
Krystal & Mickey Berggren

Birthdays

Calvary:

01—Josh McCarville
03—Piyper Berggren
04—Linda Johnson
07—Mabel Hinkle
07—Amanda Johnson
12—Kelsey Dittmer
13—Scott Walgren
15—Kerri Klein
17—Kolton Udey
18—Nick Nicholson
20—Jim Carlson
21—Jacki Walgren
22—Penny Udey
22—Clark Yungdahl
23—Loree Adelson
29—Ron Johnson
30—Kailie McCarville
30—Heidi Smith

Zion:

04—Jacob Kush
08—Dawn Kush
13—Melanie Meister
22—Justin Schoch
27—Cory Kush
27—Fred Ehlers

Zion Worship Assistants

September:

Communion Assistant: Bri Schoch
Usher: Ken Kush
Greeter: Dawn Kush
Reader:
3—Gregg Bolton, 10—Ken Kush, 17—Dawna Bolton, 24—Melanie Meister
Acolyte:
3– Isaac Reetz, 10—Lyndsey Bolton, 17—Harley Martin, 24—Tierney Schoch

Calvary Worship Assistants

September

Assistant Ministers—
Scripture Reader—Sandy Johnston
Ushers— Rick & Kathi Jones
Acolyte—Jacob Adelson
Altar Care— Gloria Oquist
Bell Ringer— Scott Walgren

September 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 8:30a Zion Worship 10:30a Calvary Holy Communion Worship	4	5	6 7p Calvary Council	7	8 9a Miriam WELCA Circle	9
10 8:30a Zion Worship 9:30a Rally Sunday Calvary & Zion 10:30a Calvary Worship 5:30p Youth Group @ 4th Street Coffee House	11 7p Reformation Prayer Service @ Kountze Memorial in Omaha	12	13 9:30a Join the Conversation Bible Study 6p Confirmation Orientation 7p Men's Bible Study 7p Ruth's WELCA	14 2p Mary Anna's WELCA Circle	15	16
17 8:30a Zion Worship 10:30a Calvary Holy Communion Worship	18	19	20 9:30a Join the Conversation Bible Study 6p Confirmation	21	22	23
24 8:30a Zion Worship 10:30a Calvary Worship 11:30a Calvary Endowment Committee Meeting	25	26	27 6p Confirmation	28 9a Quilt Day	29	30

Know God, Love God, Share God's Love

Council Notes

Council Meeting Newsletter Update—

August 8th, 2017

- The date for the fall highway pick up date has been changed to Sunday, October, 8th– we will begin at 4pm, with fellowship and food to follow. Plan to meet at Monty and Cheryl's, on Highway 39. This is a good community service, and a good way for fellowship with your fellow members. Consider bringing the whole family and helping out. WE will have hot dogs and other refreshments. You may bring something to add to the refreshments, but not necessary. It only takes about an hour or so to walk the two miles of the road ditch.
- Building update: Doug will organize a fall clean up around the church. Service Master will be here August 15th, 16th, 17th, 21st, and 22nd to clean the sanctuary, basement, kitchen, and Sunday School rooms. We will continue having Kruse work on the stain glass windows this fall. Since we have had water in the basement during rain storms, the building committee will be adding gutters to the new addition. We will be replacing the ceiling fixtures in the basement Sunday School room and adjoining hallway. Thank you for your continued offerings and volunteering your time that allows maintenance and improvements to be done.
- The Crossroads Cluster Reformation Service will be October 29th at Salem at 4pm, with soup and sandwich supper to follow. They are planning a Reformation Choir and all Calvary Members who would like to join the choir should plan to meet at Salem at 3pm that afternoon.
- Those who attended the Mission Trip, climbed into the van to go home and the first thing they said was, "Can we go again next year?" That is a good sign that the event was successful! Thanks to all who contributed to the fundraiser and the Mission Miles Fund. A van was rented from Tonniges Chevrolet, Steve waived the mileage fee, so please thank him if you see him.
- Plans are underway to have a joint service this fall with St. Vincent's Church in Osceola, - A Service Common Prayer has been scheduled for October 1st, 4pm. Calvary will host with light refreshments following service.
- Pastor is planning on a fall adult Bible Study on 1st Corinthians and a winter/early spring Bible study on Numbers.
- Fall is just around the corner, school will be starting—and so will Sunday School and Confirmation. Thanks be to God as we join in the opportunities to grow in our faith.

Treasurer's Report	**July, 2017**
Beginning Balance	**$7761.60**
Offering:	
General Offering	**7552.00**
Youth Mission Trip Miles	**580.00**
NE Brass Band Tickets	**74.00**
God's Work Our Hands; School Supplies	**123.00**
ELCA Disaster Relief	**5.00**
ELCA Mission Share	**185.00**
Zion for June Share	**1654.54**
	10173.54
Expenses:	
Vanco eCheck Monthly Fee	**7.79**
Safe Deposit Box Rent	**16.00**
Life of Martin Luther Pop Up Book	**27.86**
Office Supplies; Ink Cartridges, etc.	**96.94**
City of Stromsburg; Mosquito Spray	**140.33**
Polk Co. News; Advertising Brass Band	**143.00**
Mark Udey Mowing; April, May, June	**750.00**
NE Synod ELCA—Mission Share	**1450.00**
Zion Benedict July Share	**1699.39**
Utilities:	
Church:	**251.66**
Parsonage:	**150.76**
Salaries:	
Pastor	**2176.41**
Mileage	**153.55**
SECA	**216.41**
Portico Benefits	**995.83**
Diana	**423.52**
LeeAnn	**230.87**
Bri	**621.15**
FICA & Federal Tax Q2	**757.21**
Supply Pastor Karen Tjarks	**338.94**
	10647.92
Balance as of July 31st, 2017	**$7287.52**

*This page is only seen by Calvary Members

.....in sacred Places.....

CALVARY Lutheran church
Nebraska Synod, ELCA

950 Road 129th
Stromsburg, NE 68666

Return Service Requested

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**