June 2022

...In sacred places...

CELEBRATING MINISTRY OF CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

One of my favorite summer activities has always been Vacation Bible School. I have fond memories of attending VBS at each of the churches my father served; one of my favorites is sitting inside of a plastic tent held up by box fans as if we were Jonah in the belly of the big fish. I still love Vacation Bible School as an adult; getting to plan activities and coordinate with the gifts of volunteers, and especially feeling the excitement of the youth who are attending.

Sometimes I wish there was a Vacation Bible School for adults. Wouldn't that be fun?! I'm not sure I could crawl back out of that big fish tent quite as easily as I did when I was younger, and I know I don't run as fast in a game of tag as I once did, but I still think it would be fun!

We may not be able to coordinate something quite as big and extravagant as a real Vacation Bible School for us grown-ups, but we can go back to the Biblical roots many of us learned during those summer weeks.

During June and July we'll be pulling out some of those 'old' but timeless stories of the Bible and look at them again. These are stories that set up the foundation of our faith, but that sometimes go unnoticed as we read and talk mostly about the Gospels on Sundays during worship. There is always something new to gain from Scripture, no matter our age!

Here's a peek at whose stories we'll be reading in the summer months:

June 12th:	Noah
June 19th:	Abraham & Sarah
June 26th:	Joseph
July 3rd:	Moses
July 10th:	David
July 17th:	Elijah
July 24th:	Esther
July 31st:	Ruth

I'm looking forward to getting back to our roots with you this summer!

In Christ,
Pastor Sarah

P.S. If anyone wants to start up a game of tag, let me know!

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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

June donations go to

Blue Valley Community Action

MEALS FROM THE HEART

We've had a wonderful start on our new mission "Meals From The Heart". Thanks to all who have helped!

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, June 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the church basement. This time, we won't be freezing food, but we need to discuss contact people in each community, publicity, delivery, etc. We would love to have your input and hope you can join us as we continue to make plans on how we can continue to "Know God, Love God & Share God's Love" – we will!

The Jones family has reserved the church for the annual Jones Reunion on Sunday June 12th for a 12:30 pm meal and fellowship.

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 17 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.** Sign up sheets will be available for you at June Circle meetings. Please return sign-up sheets to Deb Hanquist or Cheryl Jones soon after your circle meetings. If you're not in a circle, please talk to Deb or Cheryl about how and when you'd like to help. Thanks so much.

*Remember Ice Cream at Assisted Living at Covenant Home on Monday, 7/18 at 2:30 p.m.

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

*Summer Coffees after worship will be served by Miriam on June 5, 12, 19, 26 and July 3. Ruth Circle will serve July 24, 31, August 7, 14, 21, and 28.

*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.

*June Altar Care will be by Kay Jones & Missy Althouse; July by Diana Johnson.

*Flowers in June will be Miriam Circle. July, August and September will be Ruth Circle.

JUNE CIRCLE MEETINGS

	Hostess/Dessert	*Bible Study*
Ruth – 6/8	Cheryl at 4th St. Coffee House*	
	*(*Note change of location)*	
Miriam - 6/9	*(No names listed in yearbook)*	

Grace & Peace to you,

Cheryl

Thank You

Just to know that in countless ways our family and friends are with us, makes the way easier.

Thank you very much for the food, phone calls, and prayers after the passing of our Dad and Grandpa, Mardell Johnson.

We appreciate everyone's support during this time.

Craig, Sarah, Megan and Jadyn Johnson

Condolences to the family of Ronald L Johnson, member of Calvary Swede Home, who passed away on April 16, 2022 at the Midwest Covenant Home.

Graveside services were held at the Osceola Cemetery on April 20, 2022

Our condolences to Mike and Deb Cramer and family as Mike's mother, Dorothy (Dot) Cramer passed away on May 5th, 2022.

Private family services were held in Central City with interment at Arborville Cemetery near Polk.

Recipes

Ham and Egg Bake

Ben Carlson shares this recipe with us. He said this was always a great treat to have for breakfast, and his mom would also serve it with her Easter Dinner.

Sliced day old bread (crust removed)

Sliced Ham

Sliced American Cheese

8 eggs beaten

3 ½ cup milk

Special K cereal

Butter a 9x13 pan. Line sides and bottom of pan with slices of bread (crusts removed)

Cover with Ham, Cheese, pour egg and milk mixture over all.

Let set overnight in refrigerator covering with foil. In Morning top with Special K cereal.

Bake 1 hour at 325 degrees. Let set 15 minutes before serving

Growing in Faith

Confirmation Class

No confirmation classes during the summer months. Thanks to Jarrett and Koleton for helping clean up the yard after the many wind storms and for moving the assorted equipment stored in the furnace room. You two are the best!!!!

We are in need of acolytes going forward this worship season. We have June, September and December covered. This is a worship opportunity for the confirmands, as we have only two confirmands it would be helpful for others to sign up. Although the youth usually do this, anyone of any age can be an acolyte!

Consider signing up and helping with the worship service!

Thank You

Thank you so very much for the scholarship you have given me! I was surprised and very excited to receive it. I'll be graduating on Friday, May 27th at Pinnacle Bank Arena in Lincoln and my Graduation Open House will be on Saturday, May 28th from 10am-12pm at First Lutheran Church in Lincoln. You are all welcome to join us at the Open House!

Over the summer I'll be working at Camp Carol Joy Holling again. Then in the Fall I'll be at Doane University and studying Music Education. I'm excited for this year but nervous for all the changes!

Thank you again!

Hannah Ruch

THANK YOU

Post Prom!
Everyone had a great time, Thank You for your donation .

Your generosity helped make the post prom successful

High Plains Community Post Prom

Dear Calvary Lutheran Church

Thank you for your generous $ 2,670.00 emergency gift to help the people of Ukraine, who are enduring unimaginable hardship and suffering. Please continue to uplift them in your prayers.

Your gift is being put to use immediately to delivery emergency food, shelter, Personal Care Kits, Baby Care Kits, medicines and other critically needed items for children and their families who are trying to survive to horrifying fighting ...or are forced to flee their homeland with a few meager belongings.

Your willingness to share your blessings during a global crisis like this is a godsend to your neighbors in Ukraine who are hearting. They can feel your love and are deeply grateful to know you are keeping them in your thoughts and prayers.

You will find inspiring stories of the life-changing work you make possible at lwr.org.

Thank you again, and God bless you!

Ambassador Daniel V. Speckhard (ret)

President and CEO

THANK YOU

Dear Friends of Calvary Lutheran:

Your love for others is wonderful! We are so thankful for your gift of $ 1,000.00 on April 26th, for our Campership program. Your stewardship gives all children the opportunity to come to camp regardless of their financial situation. Our campers develop lasting faith, with many campers growing to become summer Ministry Team members, and some deepening their faith further by going into Seminary. Your ignite the faith with your generosity. Thank You!

Our 2022 summer camp theme is Bondless and comes from Ephesians 3:19

"I want you to know all about Christ's love, although it is too wonderful to be measured. Then your lives will be filled with all that God is"

Thank you for continuing to love our campers, staff and the work we do here as faith comes alive for our guests.

With Love and thanks,

Dennis Remington Development

An extra note from Jason Gerdes;

WOW, what a wonderful gift. Thank you for your continued partnership. I have very fond memories of being at Calvary.

THANK YOU! To the WELCA of Calvary Lutheran

Your donation is greatly appreciated! We will use your generous gift to support our Pantry and Emergency Assistance programs! Thank you for your support!
Kelsey Peterson, Polk County Coordinator
Blue Valle Community Action

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

Every Member of the Congregation—Ministers
Randy Lott, Council Chairman
Kent Adelson, Council Vice Chairman
Sandy Johnston, Council Secretary
Diana Johnson, Organist
Linda Fuhr, Secretary
LeeAnn Willhoft, Custodian

Council Members:
Todd Hanquist, Lynn Hofmann, Dan Oquist,
Kent Adelson, Sandra Johnston, Kris Udey, Randy Lott

Pastor Sarah Ruch is 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,

If you have not done so, follow Swede Home on our Face-

Meet Janet Germer-Nielsen : Hebron, Nebraska was my birthplace; I was the third (middle) of five children (1 sister, 3 brothers.) My father was an FBI agent in New York when my two older siblings were born, but served as the Thayer County (Nebraska) attorney until I was 16 years old. My mother was a retired grade school teacher. My older sister and brother became medical doctors. My oldest younger brother was a lawyer who has since transitioned to a Parish Ministerial Assistant (PMA) in our synod. My youngest brother teaches school and coaches in McCool Junction. My father passed away in 1990, but my mother crossed over in 2009, having developed Alzheimer's for her final 9 years. My siblings and I were blessed to be able to care for her in her home until her last month of life.

Meet a Member— Janet Germer-Nielsen

All five of us were graduated from Hebron. I attended Nebraska Wesleyan planning to become a music teacher, but married before I acquired my degree. I was still able to work with "notes," though, as I spent from 1977 to 2018 working in Ag finance. I am presently employed by the Polk County Attorney, but hope to retire at the end of his current term.

I was blessed with two daughters, both of whom are following their aunt and uncle into the medical field (Wendy is a physician's assistant in Hebron. Libby is kept busy pursuing her RN degree, keeping books for her husband's family farm, and is an EMT.)

To help keep me out of trouble on weekends, I am one of two organists for my home church in Hebron, and when not playing there, I volunteer to play for services at my "older younger" brother's congregation in McCool.

My most interesting vacation was when I accompanied my oldest daughter and the Nebraska Ambassadors of Music group to Europe in 1997 for a 3 week tour. Interestingly, my husband Bryce's youngest brother Lance was on the same trip, though we didn't really know each other until I started dating Bryce in 2007. (There were four (or five?) buses that we travelled in, with about 40 people in each unit.)

Bryce and I have been enjoying riding motorcycles and taking care of farm animals. Bryce enjoys fishing, and I enjoy just going along, likely reading in the boat or on shore, and occasionally holding the net when necessary. We have two dogs that are almost like children to us.

Between the two of us, we have amassed an even dozen grandchildren, so we are delighted to spend much of our leisure time with them, and/or following their activities.

Much of my youthful family time was spent at a lake in northern Kansas, where we are currently rebuilding our family retreat. We are eagerly anticipating its completion!

I am passionate about Justice in our world, both here at home and abroad.

My preferred church activities include being involved in the worship service, though I enjoy just attending, too. When I first attended Swede Home, I just loved the welcoming atmosphere. I immediately felt at home. I was unaware at the time that it was where Bryce's parents had wed, but for me the family connection just adds to its attraction, so that is where Bryce and I married in 2012.

We Reach to all our faith family in prayer and celebration

Remember in your prayers

Melissa Forsberg
Janice Forsberg
June Larson
Elaine Toline
Jan Ernst

Jan Wells-Bachman
Austin Hinkle
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)

Midwest Covenant Home Matching funds challenge

Reminder:

The Congregation budget included a challenge to the members that would match up to $1000 for the Midwest Covenant Home Foundation.

This challenge will run thru the summer—

Anniversaries

June

2 Amy & Drew Harris

3 Yancy & Kim Krol

6 Dennis & Betty Hinkle

10 Roxanne & Jerome Czarnick

16 Tim & 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 Olivia Nielsen
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 Blessing

June

Assistant Minister – Renee Hanquist June 5 & 19
Carolyn Nielsen June 12 and 26
Scripture Reader – Anita Haack
Ushers – Dan and Fawn Ienn
Altar/Communion – Kay Jones & Missy Althouse
Acolyte – Jarrett Althouse
Bell Ringer – Mark Jones

June 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5 10:30 am Worship with communion	6	7	8 9 am Ruth Circle at 4th Street 7:30 Meals from the Heart at church	9 9 am Miriam circle	10	11
12 10:30 Worship Council following service Jones reunion 12:30	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 10:30 Worship with communion	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 10:30 Worship	27	28	29	30		

Know God, Love God, Share God's Love

Council Notes

Council Notes

Present at the May 1, 2022 Church Council were Randy Lott, Kent Adelson, Todd Hanquist, Lynn Hofmann, Sandy Johnston, and Pastor Sarah.

Calvary is giving the first $12,000 or 10 percent of the Lorray Smith Estate gift to missions. The third distribution of this gift is $1,000 to the Columbus Rescue Mission. The first distributions were to the Backpack program and to the Carol Joy Holling/NLOM Campership Fund.

Diana Johnson reported on the condition of the organ and the possible need for repair. The organ company we use for regular maintenance will do an inspection to determine if repairs will be needed.

Our confirmands, Jarret Althouse and Koleton Udey, as part of their confirmation service requirements will pick up sticks and branches from the lawn and remove any unused items left in the furnace room and basement office.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Treasurer's Report	**April, 2022**
Beginning balance	**$ 13,880.23**
Offerings:	
General offering	7,151.00
ELCA LIRS	5.00
Lent – Backpack program	715.00
MWCH-match challenge	450.00
European Crisis LWR Ukraine match	1,720.00
ELCA Mission Share	2,542.00
First Lutheran R.C; March share	2,195.89
	14,778.89
Expenses:	
Economy-Kitchen supplies	3.99
Vanco eCheck monthly fee	9.69
Weebly -Annual Web Fee	19.95
Easter Vigil reception	24.96
Cody's computer – contract	34.99
The Cosgrave Co- Communion wafers	36.85
Gift Card/Pastor's birthday	50.00
Emergent Fire – food/water for firefighters	139.80
Dixie Coffee cups – 500 count	94.96
Eakes copier contract 1/15-4/14	171.38
Cemetery association	500.00
Lent offering/ back pack program	2,306.00
Lorray Smith Estate Mission Giving:	
Weekend BackPack Program	1,000.00
NLOM (Campership fund)	1,000.00
European Crisis (LWM Ukraine Match	2,670.00
NE Synod ELCA Mission Share	1,560.00
First Lutheran R.C. April Share	2,123.04
Utilities:	
Church	1,112.86
Parsonage	126.76
Salaries:	
Pastor	2,163.20
Portico Benefits	1,072.87
Commuting Allowance	366.91
SECA	215.14
Mileage	66.18
Cell phone allowance	32.50
Synod Assembly Pastor	26.00
Diana	476.74
LeeAnn	241.50
Linda	457.87
Synod Assembly – Lay Persons	80.00
Tax withholding Lay persons	694.52
Balance as of April 30,2022	**$9,780.96**

*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**