

NEWSLETTER

Calvary Lutheran Church

Volume XXVI No 8 August 2005

Dear Members and Friends of Calvary:

I was reading Gerhard Frost's booklet, "Hungers of the Heart." Here is a through worth pondering.

"We suppose that if Jesus would only become contemporary in the way that we are contemporary, if He could walk on our street, or better yet, up our alley, and enter our homes, we would willingly let him enter our hearts, but the truth is that explanations never made disciples, and our best for full and final answers is an enemy of our welfare.

Only in encounter with God, where God has the first and last word can we know the joy of discipleship. To bow before the mystery is to leave more and more, yes, even all, to God.

That is the "Blessed assurance" we have as Christians. Our life, our all begins and ends in God. We are a people of faith. We live in the promises of God.

When we enter into discipleship with Christ, we enter into a relationship with the living God. That relationship empowers us to do the work of the kingdom.

Celebrate the privilege of discipleship that is yours as a member of the Family of God, through lives of service, worship and celebration.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Bill Meiers

August Events & Opportunities

Monday, August 1 st		Church League Play Off Game
Tuesday, August 2 nd	6:16 p.m.	Co- Rec League Play Off Game
Saturday, August 13 th	1:00 p.m.	Jennifer Grannis Baby Shower
Thursday, August 18 th	2:00 p.m.	Calvary Senior Fellowship
Thursday, August 18 th	6:30 p.m.	Westwood Marina Lake Washington (Mankato Area Lutheran Singles)
Thursday, August 25 th	Noon	Common Ground Meeting

CALVARY LUTHERAN HUB UNIT DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

DATE	GREETERS	LECTORS	COFFEE HOSTS	FLOWERS
8-07	Sophie Ziegler Jane Griffin	Ann Koester	Wayne & Ann Koester	
8-14	Scott & Bianca Ziegler	Dave Reedstrom	Scott & Bianca Ziegler	
8-21	Ester Kunz Rick & Rita Buck	Carol Reedstrom	Rick & Rita Buck Jay & Rachel Swalve	
8-28	Ray & Kathy Thorson	Dave Reedstrom	Byron & MaryAnn Nelson	

USHERS

8-07
8-14
8-21
8-28

ACOLYTES

8-07 Christa Urke
8-14 David Swing
8-21 Jessalyn Hoeft
8-28 Estee Kopischke

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

2 Drew Reedstrom
3 Brian Eckhoff, Bill Meiers
Mari Wright, Zachary Scharping
Tyler Miller, Mathew Malvin,
& Mark Peterson
7 Nicole Wingen, Lindsey Schweim
10 Kathy Thorson
12 Kevin Ostermann
14 Irene Grannis, Darrell Ziegler
15 Lowell Thorson
16 Jarred Hannem
17 Brent Hoeft, James Pestka
18 Sheree Dittrich, Chris Menk
& Ryan Jordan
19 Dianne Ziegler
22 Helen Wrucke, Ethan Hoeft
23 Harold Larvick, Kay Ulrich
24 Scott Malvin, Steve Krosch
25 Kayla Krosch
26 Jason Grannis

AUGUST WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

1 Scott & Amy Malvin
2 Roger & Cleo Matzke
18 Orren & Jennie Doss
Brian & Charlene Tryhus
24 Roger & Renatta Engleson
25 Ryan & Becky Kahle
26 James & Janeen Swenson
27 Roy & Betty Laborde
29 LeRoy & Shirley Hoeft
30 Corey & Shannon Heller
31 Frank & Louise Nelson-Howard

28 Steve Resner, Hope Door
31 Janeen Larson, Emily Wright

SEPTEMBER HUB UNIT TO MEET AUGUST 8

September Hub Group Members and Leaders are asked to remain following the Worship Service on Sunday, August 14 at 10:00 am to organize parish leadership for the month of September.

Leader: Phil & Tess Goodyear (2,9)	278-3208
Leader: Vicki Johnson (4,9)	278-4042
Joel Brude (3,9)	278-3506
Leslie Davis (3,9)	387-7586
Gerry & Mary Doring (4,9)	278-3040
Lucille Doss (4,9)	345-4473
June Emanuel (5,9)	625-8622
Shirley Grannis (3,9)	345-4866*
Joyce Hiller (5,9)	389-5991
Craig & Kelly Hoeft (3,9)	546-3002
Elsie Knutson (5,9)	625-8098
Mary Larsen (9,12)	726-6963
Gail Malvin (5,9)	625-2255
Byron & MaryAnn Nelson (8,9)	345-8067
Jonn Rice (2,9)	278-3688
Doug & Lee Sing (5,9)	278-3050
Roger Strand (4,9)	278-3057
Vivian Strand & Lori (4,9)	278-3057
Connie Wendt (9,12)	344-8653

HUB LEADERS PLEASE NOTE: Copies of the Hub Unit Responsibilities sheet which are filled out each month at these meetings are available in the compartment above the guest book in the Narthex. Please give completed sheet to Carla for the next newsletter by August 25.

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE IN WORSHIP AND GIVING

DATE	ATTENDANCE	TITHES & OFFERINGS
7-03	42	1,310.50
7-10	69	1,296.50
7-17	65	3,771.00
7-24	76	1,170.00

NEW HUB BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE

The new 2005 - 2008 Hub Books are now done and each family has one copy placed in their church mail box. Additional copies are available; please let Carla know if you need additional copies.

CALVARY SOFTBALL TEAMS CONTINUES PLAY

Our Men's Church Softball Team will have its second playoff game on

Monday, August 1. Our Co-Rec Softball Team will have its third playoff game on Tuesday, August 2nd at Caswell Park at 6:15 p.m.

JOHN S JOHNSON SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE (DUE AUGUST 1)

Those wishing to apply for the John S Johnson Scholarship are asked to complete an application which is available from Bob Diesch (546-3488) or the church office. Applications due in church office by August 1.

MANKATO AREA LUTHERAN SINGLES - August Restaurant Night:

Thursday, August 18th Westwood Marina at Lake Washington at 6:30 p.m. It is important to RSVP to this event to Mary Iverson at 388-2925 or blcchurch@hickorytech.net. Westwood is located by going north on Highway 22, looking for signs for Lake Washington Access. Turn right on Highway 101. Westwood is located on the right side. Plans are being made for a possible short pontoon ride (on a "first come" basis) on Lake Washington after dinner for a small fee. Please note on the RSVP if you are interest in signing up for the boat ride.

SUMMER GIVING NEEDS

Giving and worship attendance are both down for the Summer months. As of June 30th our congregational giving was \$4,600.00 below budget. Please make every effort to keep your contributions current as our expenses of mission and ministry continue through the Summer. Thank you. (Calvary Church Council)

GOING ON VACATION SOON?

As you travel this summer, be sure to worship at a congregation close to you and bring back bulletins home with you and post them on the Narthex bulletin board. Keep giving current as congregational expenses continue even when you are gone. You may use your church offering envelope to mail in your offering. Simply attach a stamp and drop in the mail.

CLCW BIBLE STUDY The CLCW will hold a Bible Study on Saturday, August 13th from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Calvary Lutheran Church with Pastor Ann Hockenstad. Treats are provided. All ladies from grade 9 and up are welcome and encouraged to attend.

AN OPEN HOUSE/COME & GO BABY SHOWER for Jennifer Grannis and Ethan will be held on Saturday, August 13th from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Calvary Lutheran Church.

CALVARY SENIOR FELLOWSHIP AUGUST 18

Calvary Senior Members will gather a week early on August 18th at 2:00 p.m. for their monthly time of fellowship and Bible Study. Coffee and refreshments will be served along with a good dose of conversation. All are welcome regardless of age. Please bring your "Lutheran Women Today" magazine if you have a July/ August copy. We will use Bible Study I from the magazine.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for news items and announcements for the September Newsletter is Wednesday, August 24. Please turn in all items to Carla by due date or put them in her church mailbox.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

- ** Jennifer Grannis who's infant son, Ethan, is hospitalized.
- ** Scott Kittleson's father, Keith, who is hospitalized.
- ** Dorothy Bammert who has health concerns.
- ** Rick Buck who is undergoing medical care at the May Clinic.

WE CELEBRATE WITH:

- ** Michael Miller and Amy Bomier who where married on July 16.

SYMPATNY TO:

- ** The family of Gladys Ballard. Funeral worship was held July 13.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

- ** Bill and Kim VanRyswyk at the birth of their daughter, Sarah.
- ** Jay & Rachel Swalve at the birth of their daughter, Abby.
- ** Jennifer Grannis at the birth of her son, Ethan.

There's work to be done, deadlines to meet;

*You've got no time to spare,
But as you hurry and scurry-
ASAP - ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER*

*In the midst of family chaos,
"Quality time" is rare,
Do your best; let God do the rest-
ASAP - ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER*

It may seem like your worries

*Are more than you can bear,
Slow down and take a breather-
ASAP - ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER*

*God knows how stressful life is;
He wants to ease our cares,
And He'll respond to all your needs
ASAP - ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER*

Church Council Meeting. Tuesday July 12, 2005.

Members present: Joel Brude, Pastor Meiers, Leslie Davis, Jodie Miller, Karen Mitchell, and Erica Kittelson. A quorum wasn't present so no motions were made or voted on.

Pastor Meiers read devotions.

Erica Kittelson read the minutes from the June meeting.

Treasurer Report:

- Karen Ostermann wasn't present. Pastor Meiers had a copy of the report for the council to review. Budget is under by \$4,362.75. At the time of this meeting there are \$3,034.80 in unpaid bills.
- The council talked about promoting the Simply Giving program by putting slips in member mailboxes.
- Pastor Meiers clarified that Calvary only had to pay scholarships for 2 Green Lake camp attendees, not 4. Another church attendee had been added to Calvary list by mistake.

Youth Committee:

- The 2006 youth gathering is July 5th - 9th in San Antonio.
- Jodie Miller said that she would start calling parents about the Sunday school survey.

Property Committee:

Pastor Meiers had a couple of items to discuss.

- One of the kitchen faucets is broken. Jeff Bateman has the parts to fix and he will also add a shutoff valve.
- Rick Buck has started the alter project. He's working on it at home.

- Joel stated that the 5-year complete overhaul of fire extinguishers had been done. It was suggested that the church put a fire extinguisher in the back and that the extinguisher in the kitchen be mounted.

Mission Committee:

- Joel said that \$925 had been donated for the new computer. Sales tax was been added to the price, Joel is going call to have that removed. The church will receive 2 rebates for the computer totaling \$222. Joel said there is enough in donations to pay for the computer and some left over to pay for other items.
- Joel will talk to Hickory Tech about hooking DSL this week.
- Pastor Meiers stated that the church copy machine has quit working and isn't repairable. Joel will talk to the Mission Committee about taking on that project.

New Business:

- The council decided not to meet in August.
- Pastor said that he will be gone July 27th until August 12th. He is looking for a replacement to do the July 31st service. He will also be gone August 19th and 20th.
- Joel talked about level giving as part of stewardship.

Old Business:

- Pastor told the council that Gail Gremel is working on the Prayer Chain.
- Joel said that the new flag pole was completed in time to fly the flag over the 4th of July.

Meeting adjourned. June council notes, Financial Secretary's Report and Treasurer Report are action items for the next council meeting.

8 WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR PASTOR'S HEALTH

By Jackie Nelson

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota

How well is your pastor?

It's a good question to ask now and then. In a recent national survey of 2,500 religious leaders, 40 percent said they were depressed at times, or worn out "some or most of the time." Pastors, once among the healthiest professionals, now have one of the highest death rates from heart disease, according to another study.

"Research shows that the health of our pastors has declined significantly in recent decades, with added stress and responsibility in their position," said Greg Nelson, clinical director for Lutheran Social Service in Mankato. "Congregations can play a vitally important role by helping to reverse this troubling trend."

Here's how members can support their pastors and help them lead healthier lives, according to Nelson:

- Set realistic expectations. Refuse to expect perfection from the pastor or the pastor's family.
- Get involved. Ministry is mutual, not just the

work of the pastor (and staff). So, roll up your

sleeves and make great things happen together!

- Encourage rest. Pastors commonly work 60-70 hour weeks. Insist that your pastor take two days off each week, and make it a church policy that pastors take a Sabbatical occasionally to recharge their batteries.
- Identify a support team. Churches can establish a Pastor Relations Committee to support their pastors, and encourage each pastor to identify a support person who can be a sounding board and supportive friend.
- Show appreciation. Write a note to your pastor, surprise him or her with a small kindness, or organize a Pastor Appreciation Sunday in October.
- Encourage learning. Pastors need time for study to help them grow in their ministry, and can also benefit from shared learnings by being involved in a colleague group.
- Offer adequate pay. Show your pastors that you value them and their work with an adequate pay package that meets or exceeds synod guidelines.
- Pray for them. And let them know that you are

praying for them!

FEATURED RESOURCE

Greg Nelson, Clinical Director, Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota - 710 South Second Street; Mankato, MN 56001; Phone: (507) 625-7660, ext. 228; gnelson@lssmn.org

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

We are a synod joined in prayer.

This prayer was written for everyone in the synod by Harold Usgaard, bishop of the

Southeastern Minnesota Synod.

Lord God, we give you thanks for your gracious gifts of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control fruits of your Spirit that speak of life filled with health and wholeness. Amen.

ABOUT OUR SYNOD

The Southeastern Minnesota Synod is a faith community of 123,000 baptized people in 183 congregations as well as related institutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Its geographic area includes 15 counties in the southeastern corner of Minnesota.

The Bridge is a monthly publication of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod, ELCA. For more information, contact the synod office:

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THIS ISSUE IS DESIGNED TO BE USED ANY TIME AFTER AUGUST 1, 2005.