

✠ MT. CALVARY NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠
NOVEMBER 12, 2023

INTERESTED IN LUTHERANISM, MEMBERSHIP?

If you or someone you know is interested in learning about the basics of the Christian faith as confessed by the Evangelical Lutheran Church, please contact Pastor Long – he may be reached through the church office or by e-mail at PRBLong@aol.com.

CONFESSION

Private confession is available by appointment only. Call the Church Office.

OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Long is generally available at Mt. Calvary Monday through Friday mornings, or by appointment should you need or want to have conversation with him. You may reach him by e-mail at: PRBLong@aol.com.

HOSPITAL CALLS

If you or a loved one have an illness or hospitalization that needs to be brought to the attention of Pastor Long, please call the office as soon as possible so that he may visit you. Note: Be sure the hospital knows that you are a member of Mt. Calvary and that you wish to have Pastor Long visit you. However, the hospitals do not always call the church—it is best if you let the office know.

ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEK – were given to the glory of God by David & Jan Heien in celebration of their 40th wedding anniversary and in thanksgiving for their many blessings.

FALL CLEAN-UP – Thank you to all that helped with the Fall Clean-Up Day. Leaves were picked up; landscape shrubs were trimmed; and Food Pantry lights were fixed. It was a very positive day due to all those who helped.

Mt. Calvary Board of Property, Jarrod Horman, Chair

A DOLLAR FOR MISSIONS: A Dollar for Missions gathers many small gifts – one dollar at a time! – to add up to a big impact for the spread of the saving Gospel of Christ. Our current project is to provide payments to churches for pastors visiting 4 new prisons or county jails in 2024. To watch a video about This next project, follow the link here: <https://youtu.be/JcC9nwejYK8>.

Envelopes addressed to the CID-LCMS Dollars for Mission Project are available on the offering table in the Narthex.

PRAYER CHAIN

Please take advantage of this opportunity to pray for your needs and those of your friends and family. Cards are available in the pew rack. To activate the chain please call Ardeane at 691-8007.

CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL

Our congregation operates Concordia Lutheran School together with the congregations of Redeemer and Trinity. Call the Concordia School office at 691-8921, or check their web site at www.concordiapeoria.com for information.

CONCORDIA STAFF FROM MT. CALVARY

Brooke Barr - Grade 2

SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

November 19, 2023 –25th Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 90:1-12

Zephaniah 1:7-16

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Matthew 25:14-30

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY – Please remember in your prayers the family and friends of:

† Joshua Zook, grandson of Barb Zook, who was called to his eternal rest last week. Services are pending.

May his family find comfort, peace, and hope in our risen and ascended Lord Jesus Christ.

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK

† Gary Ruckle – Now Home

† Dr. Jerry Jungck – Proctor

PLEASE NOTE – My home phone and internet are currently down. It will hopefully fixed when Megan gets here for Thanksgiving. In the meantime, if you must call me after hours, please use my cell (309-363-2969). Judy

WOMEN OF MT. CALVARY MEET THIS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH AT 9:30 AM.

THANKSGIVING BAGS FOR SHUT-INS -- Women of Mt. Calvary will again be preparing remembrances for our shut-ins for Thanksgiving. They need your help — can you bring wrapped candies, cookies, small bread loaves, fruit (oranges and apples), raisins, etc. and put them on the counter in the kitchen marked for the shut-in bags. They would like to prepare these bags on **Saturday morning, November 18th beginning at 9:00 am.**

WATCH FOR IT! ADOPT-A-BAG HERE! -- Women of Mt. Calvary will be sponsoring the Adopt-A-Bag Project. The bags are available for pick-up in the Parish Hall or Narthex on this Sunday, November 12th yet. If you wish to help with this project, please select a bag, fill it with non-perishable food items and return the filled bag to the Parish Hall any time **before 9:00 am on Saturday, November 18th.** We will use items from these bags to fill our Thanksgiving Baskets for distribution on **Saturday, November 18th beginning at 9:00 am** in the Parish Hall. Helpers are welcome.

TWO ITEMS FROM TUESDAY'S ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING –

1. Pledge Sunday will be December 3rd. The Pledge letter and envelope went into the mail this past week. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge as you are able. And --
2. The December Voters' Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 10th at 10:30 am in the Parish Hall. Reports from Committees and Boards are due on **November 26th,** (no exceptions.)

Please put these dates on your calendar and plan to attend both.

NEW AT CONCORDIA – WEDNESDAY FRIENDS

Concordia Lutheran school has begun a Wednesday Friends Program. This new program invites volunteers to come to the school starting in November at 10 am or a 1 pm time slot. You will be volunteering to listen to young students read or help with math. Please email Kelly at jkeckert91@gmail.com or call 309-256-1423 to get on the November calendar we would love to have you! (LaVelle tried it and enjoyed being with the youngsters and helping them with their lessons.)

POSTAGE STAMPS – The Women of Mt. Calvary are saving postage stamps for LWML. Please cut out your postage stamps from envelopes and leave them in the office. Judy will get them to the ladies. They will trim the stamps and send them to LWML to support their mission work. Thank you.

TREATS FOR FAMILY HOUSE – We provide treats for Family House on the fourth Monday of each month (see note on bulletin board). If you are able to help, please sign the sheet on the bulletin board or contact LaVelle Borders (309-681-9414).

CRAFTS AND CONVERSATION – The Crafts and Conversation Group meets at 10:00 am on Thursday mornings and is open to anyone. Bring a craft or activity you like to do. Sometimes LaVelle asks for help packing goody bags for children that come to pantry. Sometimes Judy has mailings to put together. Come join them, bring your lunch and eat with the group. **Thank you ladies again for getting the Pledge Letters ready for mailing this week.**

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS – During **November** our pantry will be in need of **Mac & Cheese, Tomatoes, Baked Beans, and Au Gratin Potatoes.** They are also looking for the heavier plastic bags that grocery stores use for delivery. _ Your donation can be left in the church office during regular office hours.

CURRENT BIBLE STUDY TOPICS

Youth Sunday School Classes – Sunday School has begun again. Sunday School has a new look, new activities, new lessons, new fun. Please bring your students, ages 3 through 8th grade, and encourage them to participate every Sunday from 10:30 to 11:30. We will have 2 or 3 levels for classes depending on our turnout and hope to add more if needed. Any high schoolers interested in starting a class please let Pastor or Paula Horst know. We hope to see you all this Sunday. This week's lesson: *Paul, the Prisoner..*

Sunday Morning Adult Class – Law and Gospel – **Topic on hiatus this week as we hear from Rev. James and the International Lutheran Council.** What's the big deal about Law and Gospel – and why do Lutherans go on about this all the time? Simply because if we aren't careful, we can lose the Gospel (the Law rather stubbornly remains with us), and thus the hope and assurance hearts weighed down by sin need for life. Join us as we read through the Formula of Concord on the issue of Law and Gospel.

Men's Bible Study Topic – Isaiah 40-64 – “The Book of Consolation” – Join us as we read through the portion of Isaiah written for exiles before they were even born! God promises deliverance to them – and promises a greater deliverance with the Messiah, and points us all to the final deliverance that comes the Last Day.

Men' Bible Study meets on Wednesday mornings at 6:30 am at Gebby's Family Restaurant at 726 East War Memorial Drive in Peoria Heights.

Thursday Lunch Together and Bible Study! -- We've added a little extra to our Thursday lunches: a Bible study. As we start expanding our offerings at Mt. Calvary, one of the natural places to begin is around a time of fellowship and meal sharing. So, the plan is to gather for lunch at Noon, eat and visit for a while, and then read a chapter of Scripture together and talk about it. Some days we might have more to say, some days less – so there's no "set" time for this. In fact, if you need to run after lunch, you can; and if you don't want to join us until we get to the Bible part – you can do that too (try to arrive around 12:30 pm for that). **We're reading the Acts of the Apostles together. Come join us!**

LISTEN TO WORLDWIDE KFUE.ORG-- **CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE.org:** Hear stories from Deaconess Kim Buelmann (missionary to refugees in Germany), Benjamin Kolodziej (history of LCMS music), and Deaconess Dr. Tiffany Manor and Rev. Ken Krueger (church worker wellness) on The Coffee Hour (weekdays at 9:00 a.m. CT), begin studying 1 Corinthians on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and study Mark 10-11 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfue.org or the KFUE Radio app!

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE THOUGHT FOR THE DAY -- Like the parable's bridegroom, Jesus often meets us in unexpected moments (Matthew 25:10). He even sometimes hides in surprise pregnancies or terminal diagnoses in order to rescue and bless. So, we dare not ignore the poor and needy neighbors who cry out for deliverance (Psalm 70:1, 5) from abortion and assisted suicide. If we do indeed love the Lord's salvation, then let us say so (Psalm 70:4)!

THE LUTHERAN LADIES LOUNGE – Wild Card: Postpartum Mental Health (PMAD) -- Nadine Grayl is a licensed clinical social worker, a trained deaconess, a pastor's wife, a mom of three, and a fellow Lutheran lady. She's also a survivor of postpartum depression who now has a passion for helping and treating other women suffering from perinatal mood and anxiety disorders. Between one in five and one in seven pregnant and postpartum mothers suffer from depression, anxiety, and other mood disorders — yet many of these women suffer in silence, ashamed of their feelings, frightened of their

intrusive thoughts, and too troubled and weak even to reach out for help.

In this interview, Nadine shares her own story and offers a wealth of personal and professional insights to help Lutheran women better understand, identify, and help those facing a range of postpartum mental health challenges.

Resources referenced in this episode include:

Postpartum.net and the Postpartum Support International helpline: 1-800-944-4773

Mom and Mind podcast

The Wellness Pod podcast

This Isn't What I Expected: Overcoming Postpartum Depression by Karen R. Kleiman and Valerie Davis Raskin
Good Moms Have Scary Thoughts: A Healing Guide to the Secret Fears of New Mothers by Karen Kleiman and Molly McIntyre

Beyond the Blues: Understanding and Treating Prenatal and Postpartum Depression & Anxiety by Shoshana S. Bennett and Pec Indman

ISSUES ETC. – RESPONDING TO ARGUMENTS AGAINST CHRISTIANITY -- When people challenge the truths of the Christian faith, do you find yourself at a loss for answers? You can listen to the new audiobook, *"Objections Overruled: Answering Arguments against Christianity"* at issuesetc.org/objectionsoverruled. This new audiobook is free and produced by Lutheran Public Radio based in Collinsville, IL. LPR produces radio talk shows, podcasts, and 24/7 sacred music and talk stations.

STEWARDSHIP – Please remember that the ministry of Mt. Calvary continues even in these odd days. Your prayers and contributions are still needed.

The Treasurer's Report for October, 2023 showed the year's expenses at \$319,461.59 and income of \$301,128.97 which included \$74,870.49 from the endowment for paying Concordia and 14,419.00 from Thrivent Choice and Thrivent Charitable Gifts. You may mail your envelopes in (checks only, please), or drop them by the office. You can also make electronic donations through our web page: (www.mtcalvarypeoria.org) by clicking the "donate" tab and setting up a profile with VANCO. If a donation is given using a credit card or debit card there is a 2.75% fee. If an electronic check is used the fee is 1.00%. People have begun donating through e-giving and have learned how easy it is to use.

Celebrate Autumn and God's Bountiful Blessings by coming to the

Mt. Calvary Harvest Dinner

**with special guest,
Rev. Roger B. James,
Assistant to the Secretary General
of the International Lutheran Council
on this Sunday,
November 12, 12:30 PM**



Immediately following late service

The Women of Mt. Calvary will provide the ham, green beans and mashed potatoes (all gluten-free.) Bring a salad or dessert to share.

Please sign up on the bulletin board your attendance and to help with set-up, serving and clean-up.

Join Mt. Calvary members for fellowship, food, celebration and giving thanks.

For questions, contact Luann Claudin, 309-369-2606 call/text or by email:
claudfam1311@gmail.com