

✠ MT. CALVARY NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS ✠
NOVEMBER 19, 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.

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 26, 2023 –Last Sunday of the Church Year

Psalms 95:1-7

Ezekiel 34:11-16,20-24

1 Corinthians 15:20-28

Matthew 25:31-46

ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEK – were given to the glory of God by Marilyn Miller in celebration of birthday and in thanksgiving for her many blessings.

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE – Mt. Calvary will celebrate Thanksgiving this Wednesday, November 22nd, beginning at 6:30 pm. Scripture texts for that service are Philippians 4:6-20 and Matthew 6:24-34 and the format is that of the regular Thursday evening services with a couple of extra hymns added. Please join us.

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.

NOW HOME – Dr. Jungck has returned to his room at Manor Court in Liberty Village.

THIS SATURDAY WE WILL BE PREPARING 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 **this Saturday morning, November 18th beginning at 9:00 am.**

THIS SATURDAY WE WILL BE PACKING OUR THANKSGIVING BASKETS -- Women of Mt. Calvary are sponsoring the Adopt-A-Bag Project. The bags are available for pick-up in the Parish Hall or Narthex during this week 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 **this Saturday, November 18th beginning at 9:00 am** in the Parish Hall. Helpers are welcome.

PLEASE NOTE – My home phone and internet are currently down (I can read my e-mail while I am at work). It will hopefully be 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

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS – Linda Khattar will be putting up the Christmas trees and lights on **next Sunday, November 26th**. When she returns from Germany she will be finishing the rest of the decorations. So, for now she would like a merry band of elves to help get the trees upstairs (and assembled) **next Sunday**. If you are able to help, please join her after the 11:45 am service to help.

TWO ITEMS LOOKING FORWARD TO DECEMBER –

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 **next Sunday, November 26th**, (no exceptions.)

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

ADVENT LUNCHES – Wednesday lunches are back for our Advent Season, December 6th, 13th, and 20th. Soups, salads, sandwiches and desserts. Check the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board across from Pastors' office to see where you can help out. Questions call Abbie Matson (309-274-6722)



CONCORDIA CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

Come celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ as Concordia Lutheran School presents their Christmas Concert Series on December 8 and 10! All school bands and orchestras will perform on Friday, December 8 starting at 6:30 pm in the CLS Ruppert Center. All choirs and classroom music ensembles will perform on Sunday, December 10 starting at 2:30 in the CLS Ruppert Center. Both concerts are open to the public and we invite you to join us as we “deck the hall” with joyful music!

JR. & SR. HIGH YOUTH – SAVE THE DATE!!!!
Tuesday, January 2, 2024 for a Christmas event at Redeemer from 5:30-9:30. Watch for further details and in the meantime, mark your calendars!

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 to the ladies for preparing the tags for the “Giving Tree.”**

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, is Taken to Rome.*

Sunday Morning Adult Class – Law and Gospel – 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! – You have to eat anyway, and it is always good to feed the heart with fellowship and the spirit with God's Word. So – do all three with us on Thursdays. We gather to eat at Noon (bring your own – but desserts are sometimes provided), and if you need to run after that, fine. We generally start our Study at 12:30, (and if you can't come until then, that's good too) and spend about an hour discussing whatever comes up. [We're off this week for Thanksgiving.] We're finishing *Acts*, and will go on to *Jonah* next.

LISTEN TO WORLDWIDE KFUE.ORG-- CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE.org: Study 1 Corinthians 4-6 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), hear a missionary update from the Helge family and the history of music in the Lutheran Church on The Coffee Hour (weekdays at 9:00 a.m. CT), and study Mark 13-14 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Hear your favorite programs on demand at kfue.org and the KFUE Radio app!

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE THOUGHT FOR THE DAY -- Many around us despair because the world pressures them into the violence and fraud (Zephaniah 1:9) of viewing death as a solution to difficulty. In the sanctity of every human life, we have riches to spare (Matthew 25:15). Gospel hope and joy are not just for us to possess. Jesus brings us faith and life to proclaim and put into practice.

THE LUTHERAN LADIES LOUNGE – IRON LADLE CHALLENGE: THANKSGIVING STUFFING: -- Thanksgiving is coming — and that means it's time once again to put on our eating pants and enjoy some delicious “hot fat carbs.”

In this Iron Ladle Challenge, the Ladies discuss and share favorite recipes for what they consider the ultimate comfort-food Thanksgiving side: stuffing.

Do we call the dish “stuffing” or “dressing”? Should stuffing *actually* be stuffed into an uncooked turkey? Should it be served hot or cold — and if hot, how do you

keep it warm while the rest of the feast bakes? Which is better: yeast bread or cornbread stuffing? What are the best add-ins to ensure the most savory, palatable, and memorable side dish? And can Erin and Rachel agree to disagree about their very different approaches to “savory bread pudding”?

ISSUES ETC. – EQUIPPING THE PRIESTHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS

-- Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's teachings include: The Hymn “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come,” Forgiving Those Who Sin Against Us, The Parable of the Ten Virgins, Transhumanism and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

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.

WEATHER ALERTS – With winter weather approaching, here are ways to receive cancellations. The TV stations, WMBD, WEEK, and WHOI will be notified, an e-mail will be sent out (if I don't have your e-mail and you want these notifications, please let me know) and it will appear on our web-site (www.mtcalvarypeoria.org) and facebook page.

BRUCE & KATIE TAGGE COULD USE SOME HELP – As we look toward the fall and winter weather to come, Bruce & Katie could use some help getting the leaves raked and the yard cleaned up for the winter. If you have time and could help out, give them a call -- Bruce (309-361-9821) or Katie (309-550-4519). Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Poinsettia Garden Orders

*Help us beautify the chancel on Christmas Eve by ordering
Poinsettias.*

or leave it to be used during the rest of the Christmas Season.

Envelopes were placed in your mail boxes for ordering

Cost for Poinsettia is \$8.00 per plant.

Deadline for ordering is December 17th.

*Checks should be made out to Mt. Calvary Altar Guild and
placed in Linda Khattar's mailbox.*

