



Mount Calvary Connected

September 28, 2023

Mount Calvary Connected is a weekly newsletter sent out at the end of each week. Our goal is to keep you connected to your church and your faith with messages from our church, information about upcoming activities at Mt. Calvary, and more!

WEEKLY WORSHIP BULLETINS

Weekly worship bulletins can be found at: www.mt-calvarylutheran.org/bulletins/

Upcoming Events & Meetings

Sun., October 1st - Blanket Sunday
Tues., October 3rd - Fall Alpha Course - 6:00 PM
Thurs., October 5th - Evangelism Meeting - 6:30 PM
Sat., October 7th - Clothing & Toy Sale - 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Tues., October 10th - Property Committee Meeting - 6:00 PM
Tues., October 10th - Fall Alpha Course - 6:00 PM
Mon., October 16th - WELCA - 6:00 PM
Tues., October 17th - Church Council Meeting - 6:30 PM
Tues., October 17th - Fall Alpha Course - 6:00 PM
Tues., October 24th - Fall Alpha Course - 6:00 PM
Sat., Oct. 28th - Trunk or Treat! - 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Tues., October 31st - Fall Alpha Course - 6:00 PM

Trunk or Treat!

The Evangelism Committee is planning a special event for October... Trunk or Treat!

Participants will set up in our parking lot and give out treats to all the kids. You can decorate your parking spot or car as much as you want or just come and give out treats from your vehicle! Trunk or Treat will be held Saturday, Oct. 28th from 2 PM - 4 PM.

Please consider participating in the fun! A sign up sheet is in the back of the Narthex.

Ladies of Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church — You are invited!!

What — Allegheny Synodical Women's Organization (ASWO) 2023 Convention

The ASWO Board and Convention Planning Committee invite you to attend the Thirty-fourth Annual Convention on Saturday, October 21, 2023. This half-day convention is a great opportunity for you to learn about the Women of the ELCA, worship, and fellowship with your sisters in Christ from the Allegheny

Synod. This year's theme is "The Old is gone, The New is Here." Enjoy a hot breakfast, followed by Worship and a business meeting (no workshops).

Where — Newry Evangelical Lutheran Church
Address: 1030 Shamrock Lane, Newry PA

Cost — \$15.00

Registration — Begins at 8:30 AM

Registration forms are provided in the WELCA mailbox in the main Church Hall. All registration forms with your \$15.00 check included are due October 2, 2023.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Ling at 814-262-7714 or Lois Gallus at 814-241-3470.

Blanket Sunday

WELCA is sponsoring Blanket Sunday, a traditional Lutheran ministry held in the Allegheny Synod beginning the first Sunday of October.

Your contributions are used by Lutheran World Relief to buy blankets which provide shelter, warmth, and security worldwide for our brothers and sisters in Christ who are facing disaster. Special envelopes are on the counter by the main entrance door to the narthex; write Blanket Sunday in the memo line of your check payable to Mt Calvary Lutheran Church. You may donate a new blanket for this ministry; a collection basket will be in the Narthex.

Note: blankets must be in Church by Sunday Oct 15th; offerings will be accepted until Nov 1st.

"Please join us" in this special opportunity to help "Our Brothers and Sisters in Christ" who are in dire need.

Worship Help

Readers/Communion Assistants:

Sept. 30th Deb Rychak & Mark Rychak

Oct. 1st Ray Leverknight

Ushers:

Sept. 30th Need volunteers!

Oct. 1st David Roho

Altar Guild:

September Laura Bowser, Mary Beth Heinze, and Nancy Nemeth

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Terrie Crisi or sign up on the signup sheet in the Narthex.

Worship Leader Schedule

Sept. 30th The Rev. Kevin Shock

Oct. 1st The Rev. Kevin Shock

Our Sincere Appreciation!

Thank you to everyone who helped move clothes from downstairs and into the gym last Sunday. Your help was greatly appreciated!

September & October - Donations Needed!

For the months for September and October, The Giving Tree will collect new packs of underwear for the Nurse's Office at Johnstown Elementary School. The sizes needed are 4T through Adult Medium for both boys and girls. Thank you for your continued support!

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers this week were not sponsored by a member of our congregation.

Sponsoring the altar flowers for a weekend is a beautiful way to honor or remember loved ones. Flowers are often given to mark life events such as birth and birthdays; anniversary of a wedding, baptism, confirmation; the memory of a loved one; or as a thanksgiving for life's blessings.

Please take a look at the altar flower sign-up sheet and considering signing up for one of the unreserved weekends. A \$40 donation helps to beautify our sanctuary and honor your loved ones.

Due to a database update and a glitch in the new reporting, the birthday and anniversary list will return next week. Sorry for the inconvenience!

Remember those that prayer has been requested for:

Brooke & Bill; Chuck; Dawn; Cherie; Lorrie & Bill; Jamie Bloom; Johnny Nerone; Cheryl & Roger; James; Denny & Ellen; Sue; Beth Oldham; Stacy & Josh; Janet; Landon; Harold; Mary; Elaine, Patty and Betty Shaffer; Jim Haberkorn; Patty Creany; Brianna; Jackie; Mike; Lois; Suzzane Miller; Cindy; Danny & Donna Crowson; Bert; for the Call Committee as they seek our future pastor; Jerry Pozun; Pastor Dave Louder and his wife, Corlee; Milo; Krista Miller; Cecilia Baum; Richelle; Tom & Gretchen; Makenzie Miller; Alex; the Dalton Blough Family; Jan; The Jeanjaquet Family; Christine; Sue & Lee; Jill Lisson; Wilma Hiltz; El Warshel; The Layton Family; The Oleksa Family; Danielle; Rose; Dr. Ruth Pawlowski & Family; Kristen.

September 23rd & 24th, 2023

Are you envious because I am generous?

Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual loving kindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A: Amen.

First Reading: Jonah 3:10--4:11

When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own

country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” And the LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.” But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?” The word of the Lord, **A: Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody: Psalm 145:1-8

L: I will exalt you, my God and king, and bless your name forever and ever.

A: Every day will I bless you and praise your name forever and ever.

L: Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised! There is no end to your greatness.

A: One generation shall praise your works to another and shall declare your power.

L: I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty and all your marvelous works.

A: They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts, and I will recount your greatness.

L: They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

A: The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:21-30

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God’s doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The word of the Lord, **A: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew. **A: Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the

laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.” The gospel of the Lord, **A: Praise to you, O Christ!**

Prayers Of Intercession

L: Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

L: God who is gracious and merciful, teach your church to invite and welcome all. Lead us to be grateful for the blessing of community. Challenge your church to choose equity and compassion over judgment. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

L: God who sends the wind and the sun, you know every worm and bush by name. Help us remember that even the humblest parts of creation are precious to you. Show us how best to care for the earth and its creatures. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

L: God who is ready to relent from punishing, impart your compassionate wisdom to legislators, judges, members of the military, and law enforcement. Give them courage to serve their communities in times of uncertainty, stress, or exhaustion. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

L: God who saves, direct your people who are tempted by evil ways. Protect your children from calamity and disaster. Strengthen all who are incarcerated. Encourage all who are in despair or pain of any kind. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

L: God who is slow to anger, may we boast about the goodness of Jesus with the confidence of Paul in prison. Inspire us to find abundance in whatever vocation we are called to in the world and in service to our congregation. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

L: Gracious Lord, you know the skills and spiritual gifts that are needed to do ministry within this congregation. Please guide one with these qualities to us to be our shepherd. Lead this congregation in the way that you see best for all of your Church. Help us to continue to witness to your truth, and bless each member that we might remain strong in the faith. Keep each member faithful through this time that we might be regular in our worship, diligent in the sharing of the Eucharistic feast, eager to learn, and ever ready to do your will. We pray in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

L: God who abounds in steadfast love, we give thanks for the saints called to the kingdom of heaven. United with them in spirit, hold us firm as we labor in this life and look to the life to come. Merciful God,

A: receive our prayer.

L: Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

A: Amen.

Blessing

P: The God of glory, ✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

A: Amen.