



Mount Calvary Connected

October 13, 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

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.

Worship Help

Readers/Communion Assistants:

Oct. 14th Corlee Louder

Oct. 15th Noelle Berkey

Ushers:

Oct. 14th Volunteers needed!

Oct. 15th The Swartz Family

Altar Guild:

October The Swartz and Mayket Families and Krista Miller

Worship Leader Schedule

Oct. 14th Gary Mickle, Authorized Lay Leader

Oct. 15th Gary Mickle, Authorized Lay Leader

Clothing and Toy Sale Update

Thank you to everyone who donated clothes and toys for our sale. We brought in \$580 which will be split between Hosanna House Inc., Helping Hand Rescue Mission, and The Women's Help Center of Johnstown! The remaining clothes and toys were donated to the following locations:

Birthright: Toddler clothes/bibs and stuffed animals

Johnstown Elementary School: Children's clothing

St. Vincent DePaul, ACRP Second Chance Store, and St. Francis Sharing and Caring: Men's and Women's

A special thank you to all who helped move clothes to the gym, set up, sort, work the sale, and pack clothes and clean up after the sale. We had a lot of clothes this year, and it would not have been possible without all of your help!

Sunday School Craft & Reminder

Sunday School will be held each Sunday from 9:45 AM to 10:15 AM.

You may be asking yourself, "What is the chain link decoration above the entrance to the nave?" Well, our Sunday School children wanted to display what they created for everyone to see! Each child created their own link and attached it to the first one with Jesus' name. It shows how we are all connected to, and loved by Jesus. If your child was absent for Sunday School, and would like to have their name attached, please let Mike Kozak know and he will add it on.

Year End Reporting

Calling all committee heads and members! Please begin working on your end of year reports. We would like to receive them no later than November 15th.

Blanket Sunday Donations

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.

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 weekend are sponsored by Shirley Sholtis-Glova in memory of loved ones.

October 15-22, 2023 Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

October 15 - Zada Grayson, Rachael Brandau, and Robert Jeschonek

October 16 - Jackie Janak and Bonnie Kishlock

October 17 - Nancy Moore

October 21 - Paige Heider

October 22 - Anne Brodt

Anniversaries

October 16 - Matthew & Kierisa Hockensmith

October 20 - Brett & Wendy Reitnauer

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; Patty Creany; Brianna; Jackie; Mike; Lois; Suzzane Miller; Cindy; Danny & Donna Crowson; Bert; Pastor Dave Louder and his wife, Corlee; Milo; Krista Miller; Cecilia Baum; Richelle; Tom & Gretchen; Makenzie Miller; Alex; Jan; Christine; Sue & Lee; Jill Lisson; Wilma Hiltz; El Warshel; The Layton Family; Danielle; Rose; Dr. Ruth Pawlowski & Family; Kristen; Marilyn; The Jeff Penrod Family; Paul Mayket; Betty Shaffer; Linda; Kim; Nina; Kevin (US Navy).

Oct. 7th & 8th, 2023

My beloved had a vineyard

Prayer of the Day

P: Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A: Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel,

and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry! The word of the Lord, **A: Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody: Psalm 80:7-15

L: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

A: You have brought a vine out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and planted it.

L: You cleared the ground for it; it took root and filled the land.

A: The mountains were covered by its shadow and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.

L: You stretched out its tendrils to the sea and its branches to the river.

A: Why have you broken down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?

L: The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

A: Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;

L: behold and tend this vine; preserve what your right hand has planted.

Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. The word of the Lord, **A: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46

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

[Jesus said to the people:] "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet. The gospel of the Lord, **A: Praise to you, O Christ!**

Prayers Of Intercession

L: Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

L: God of all grace, you are the source of life and joy. Strengthen the resolve of your church throughout the world, that together we press on toward the goal of your heavenly call in Jesus Christ. God of grace,

A: hear our prayer.

L: God of all creation, you plant and nourish the earth as your own precious vineyard. Bless fields and orchards and the hands of those who labor in them, that your people are fed with an abundant harvest of good fruit. God of grace,

A: hear our prayer.

L: God of all the earth, you desire peace and justice between nations and peoples. Guide leaders of nations, states, provinces, and cities, that they faithfully govern your people with wisdom, integrity, and compassion. God of grace,

A: hear our prayer.

L: God of all compassion, in Christ, you lovingly poured yourself out like wine for your people. Have mercy on all who mourn, who struggle with their mental health, who cry out for justice, who hunger, and all in any need. God of grace,

A: hear our prayer.

L: God of all steadfastness, you set Christ as the cornerstone and foundation of the church. Build up this congregation as living stones, that it stands in the community as a witness to your enduring faithfulness and love. God of grace,

A: hear our prayer.

L: God of all hope, the saints who came before us lived and died with their hearts fixed on you. We give you thanks for their faithful witness, and we wait with hope for the great day when we join their voices in praise. God of grace,

A: hear our prayer.

L: Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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.