



# June 2023

Mt. Calvary Messenger  
Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church  
1372 W. Fremont Street  
Galesburg, IL 61401  
309 342-7083



# June 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	<p><b>**Starting June 5th-</b> Leah office hours: Mon, Wed, Fri 8:30am-12pm</p>			<p>1 1pm LWML</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4 8:45am Graduate Breakfast 10am Worship 11:30am Elders Meeting 11:30 Card-making With Rose</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 10am-12pm Crafters</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11 8:45am Bible Class/SS 10am Worship</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 5:30pm Council</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 17 Leah out of town</p>	
<p>18 8:45am Fathers Day Breakfast 10am Worship  1-4pm Retirement Open House</p>	<p>19 4:30pm Rummage work time</p>	<p>20 4:30pm Rummage work time</p>	<p>21 4:30pm Rummage work time</p>	<p>22 4:30pm Rummage work time</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 8am-12pm Rummage sale</p>
<p>25 8:45am Bible Class/SS 10am Worship</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 3pm Hats of Love</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>Leah out of town</p>

## Happy Anniversary

## Happy Birthday

- 1- Mason Carlson
- 1- Tony Robertson
- 1- Jennifer Simpson
- 9- Pastor Sommerer
- 10- Michael Bird
- 10- Sara Teske
- 10- Joshua Peterson
- 13- Gabriella Marshall
- 16- Jordan Donnelly
- 19- William Burkhardt
- 23- Glenda Waterfield
- 23- Brandie Donley
- 23- David Beversdorf
- 25- Aaron Kugler
- 26- Joann Folger
- 26- Gwendolyn England
- 27- Janet Laugesen
- 28- Sherry Kersh
- 29- Diane Teske
- 29- Natalie Cansino

- 1- Brad & Jennifer DeWolfe
- 5- Brett & Diane Teske
- 12- Marc & Lori Kugler
- 14- Brett & Lisa Wolfe
- 15- Kevin & Lori Engel
- 17- Christopher & Nelly Clark
- 18- Steve & Jennifer Baughman
- 18- Mark & Wendy Havens
- 27- Les & DeEtte Lindsey

### **Attendance for the month of May**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Communion</u>
5/7	63	44
5/14	89	58
5/21	87	67
5/28		

## Baptism Birthdays

Glenda Waterfield

- 6-13 Gabriella Marshall
- 6-15 Brent Bernett
- 6-17 Lindsay Jacobs
- 6-19 Aaron Kugler
- 6-26 Aaron Smith

### *In Our Prayers*

#### **Health concerns:**

Joyce Wolfe	Dan Brackett
Theresa Clark	Fern Harding
Anita Reinertsen	Janalee Gutierrez
Mitch Jacobs	Bob Donley
Guy Hood	Dean Westergreen
Frederick Larner	Louis Linnenburger
Nelly Clark	Chris Clark

Eva Jean- Ruth's sister  
 Stephanie- Terri Clark's daughter  
 Janet- Bob Donley's sister in law  
 Nancy- Rose's sister  
 Perry- friend of Jessica Cansino, in a car accident

#### **Others:**

Pastor Meeker, Deaconess Lorna, the Kenya Mission  
 Pastor Omolo and Hope for the Destitute  
 Our Armed Forces: Sgt Kaleb Karssen

Whoever believes and  
 is baptized will be  
 saved. Mark 16:16a



Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

## *A blessed Father's Day!*

We are thankful for our fathers showing us the Christian way.

### **New office hours for the summer!**

Starting Monday, June 5th:

Leah will be in the office Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:30am to 12 noon. If you leave a message she will get back to you on the next business day.



If you need assistance faster, you can call the office to see if Pastor is in, or contact Pastor on his cell phone at 618-444-7055.

### **VBS IS HAPPENING July 24-28!**

Our next meeting will be June 11th after our service.

**We are in need of volunteers if you are able to help!**  
Please talk to Lori Kugler or Leah in the office!

\*\*Leah will have the list of volunteers who need to complete their mandated reporter training also.



Mt. Calvary Annual **Rummage Sale** will be Saturday, June 24th from 8am to 12pm!!

Donation drop-offs will be accepted starting Sunday, June 11th thru Wednesday, June 21st. (please place all items in the conference room)



\*\*\*\*All items need to be clean and in good condition. We are **NOT** accepting adult clothing. We will need volunteers to help the day of. All help is appreciated!!

### Upcoming Vacations:

Leah will be out of town on Friday, June 15th and Thurs/Fri, June 22nd & 23rd.

Pastor and family will be gone July 1st-6th.



LWML will meet Thursday, June 1st at 1pm.  
Roll call will be a verse about children.  
Lois has the topic and Merrily is the hostess.

## Voters Meeting Summary—April 30, 2023

Michelle Peterson became a voting member and was elected as church Treasurer as well.

Pastor reported official acts. Adult confirmation classes are continuing for several people and Rebecca Smith was baptized as a child of God today. She will continue with instruction classes towards confirmation as well. Confirmation for Ezra, Micah and Seeley will be on May 28th. Pat Matheny was transferred out, with Aaron Smith and Tim Gerck transferring in to Mt. Calvary.

Treasurer: Michelle Peterson reported that operating income is less than what is needed to cover our budget and expenses. Church maintenance costs have been over budget due to repairs needed. Thrivent choice dollars designated to Mt Calvary go into the Capital Improvement Fund, the Choice dollars designated to Preschool go into the scholarship fund.

The Stewardship Committee will host the annual Rummage Sale on June 24th. Items can be dropped on starting June 11th. Volunteers will be needed the day of to help!

Preschool: classes for next year are full, with waiting lists started! The school year will finish up at the end of May with a short program and certificates awarded at Rotary Park. Kayla Bird continues to work on her classes to become director qualified. Jeanie and Kayla will work together until Kayla has finished her courses. Melanie and Cassandra will be our teachers for next year. The process for completing our licensing renewal is almost done! Birdies for Charities forms are available and need to be turned in the Jeanie or Leah by May 28th! Thank you for your continued prayers and support!

Youth: Have been involved in circuit youth activities, Mt. Calvary hosted an event in April. Summer youth group plans are being worked on. *There was a question about the next National Youth Gathering....* The next gathering is in 2025 in New Orleans, but Higher Things Conferences are more “local”, have less participants and are usually held on an LCMS college campus. We are exploring our options right now.

VBS will be July 24-28, 2023. The theme is God’s Living Water. CPH has simplified their program. We are trying to focus more on God’s Word/story time. We are in the process of figuring out plans.

Evangelism has been making cards for our shut-ins. The next card-making will be June 4th and we will be making Fathers Day cards.

Properties: The State Fire Marshal came and inspected for our preschool license renewal. There was a couple of things to fix, and we have been cleared. The microphones in church continue to be monitored for sound issues. There were leak issues in the preschool bathrooms, which have been fixed. We are purchasing an AED machine that should arrive this fall.

Elders: there is an updated Elders List, if you received a postcard in your church mailbox, you have a new elder. Elders will be hosting a Mothers Day Brunch on May 14th. Confirmation will take place on May 28th, Questioning will take place the week before.

Building Committee: information sheet was passed out about construction costs, and fees associated with what comes next with the project. (*you can get a copy of the sheet from Leah in the office*). Current concept drawings are in the mailroom, and a decision will be discussed at the July Voters Meeting on moving forward with the project.

2023-2024 Budget was discussed. Current fiscal year ends June 30th. Next fiscal year budget requires an increase in giving to cover increases in expenses. Several expenses that have increased include: larger sizes of Sunday School classes, wage increase to meet minimum wage, preschool expenses to pay a director, mileage fees, communion costs, visiting pastor fees, repair and maintenance costs for repairs on our buildings. Insurance premiums have also increased. Motion to approve the upcoming fiscal year budget was seconded and approved by voting members.

A survey requesting feedback on Advent/Lenten dinner and service times was made available for all church members to fill out and return.

Hats of Love will meet Tuesday, June 27th at 3pm.  
Thank you to all who continue to help us spread  
God's love to our neighbors!



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Mt Calvary Preschool Staff will be hosting a  
**SURPRISE** Retirement Open House  
for Mrs. Whittle

Sunday, June 18th from 1-4pm

Join us in the gym to celebrate Mrs. Whittle and her years of  
service to Mt. Calvary Preschool. Church members, current &  
former preschool families are welcome to attend.

We encourage cards of congratulations and well wishes  
for her special scrapbook!



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Knox County Right to Life will meet Tuesday, June 13th at 7pm at First Church  
of the Open Bible, 521 W. Losey St. Galesburg.



Upcoming event: Interdenominational Prayer Service being held on June 25th at  
Open Bible Church, 521 W. Losey St., Galesburg. Doors open at 6pm.  
Mercedes Harris will be the speaker.

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**Join us June 4th during Bible Class hour for a Graduate Breakfast—**  
celebrating our graduates and all that they have accomplished!

Breakfast will be served and a basket for each graduate  
will be available for your cards/gifts.

**Congratulations to all our Graduates!**



**Galesburg High School**

Avery Wolfe— plans to attend Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.  
She will be majoring in Biological Sciences in the Pre-Dental Scholars  
Program

**Williamsfield High School**

Natalie Gonzalez— plans to attend Monmouth College majoring in Biology with a Pre-  
Veterinary concentration. She will be participating on the volleyball and track teams

Madeline Gonzalez— plans to attend Bradley University, Peoria, majoring in Accounting with a  
minor in Business Administration

**Western Illinois University**

Dalton Engel— a degree in Ag Science. Planning to return to farming at home for the season  
and look for a job in agronomy/precision ag industry after fall harvest

**Monmouth College**

Emma Wolfe— graduating with a Bachelors in Elementary Education. She will be teaching 4th

*“How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.”*

The deep passion and care that rings out through those words, certainly stirs the imagination. One can imagine a young suitor going to great lengths to show his beloved the depth of his love lavishly showering attention and care, extravagantly bestowing affection. The mind races. The heart pitter-patters through the possibilities – the candlelight dinners, the roses and chocolates... All charming images to consider, but can such a love as this also be reckless or even destructive? Perhaps, young suitor is a bit over-extravagant selecting a wedding ring. Perhaps, in his zeal young suitor buries our future family in credit card debt. Perhaps, his beloved begins to base her assurance and confidence in said suitor by the volume and expense of his gifts. Something beautiful has gone seriously, even sickeningly, wrong.

As another example of love gone wrong one might consider the family. When a parent is unwilling to force the child to do something good for them, another kind of love has taken over – the self-love that seeks never to be made uncomfortable confronting serious issues. For example, a parent who does not ask their child to do any of the following if they don't want to: eat healthy food; get enough sleep; go to school; go to church and Sunday school; confirmation or midweek; etc. Is the child's church attendance/diet/sleep unimportant or is it simply easier to go along to get along?

Nowadays, Luther would have gotten very low marks. In His Preface to the Small Catechism, he wrote: “Those who refuse to learn (their catechism) are to be told that they are denying Christ and do not belong to Him...not to be admitted to the Sacrament, accepted as sponsors at Baptism, or allowed to exercise Christian liberty in any way... Moreover, their parents and supervisors should refuse them food and drink.” Hardly, the sort of comments one expects to grace the inside of a greeting card this Mother's Day.

There is no love where there is not discipline. The Book of Hebrews (ch.12) says, “*God disciplines those whom He loves, as a loving Father disciplines His children.*” *God's discipline teaches us to “fix our eyes on Jesus”(Heb.12; Rom.5:3f). God's discipline shows me that no matter how self-important, proud, wealthy, popular, powerful or independent I become, I am nothing without God's hand there to sustain me: “He opens His hands and satisfies the desires of every living thing”(Ps.145) and “apart from Him we can do nothing”(John15:5).*

God disciplines His children, because He loves us and His highest aim is not so much our earthly happiness as our eternal salvation. Remember God sent His own Son to die and rise to make that salvation yours. It stands to reason he would take it very seriously that we not squander that gift, but that He works even behind the hardships and losses and sufferings of life for our eternal benefit and good. Roman says, “*God works all things for the good of those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose.*” *That doesn't mean all things will go smoothly. It means in God's wisdom – they will work out for the good of His people – possibly (likely!), in ways that we will never understand or imagine.*

Love is not tyrannical. Love is not over-bearing or demeaning. Love is “*patient, kind, not envious, not boastful, not proud, not rude, not self-seeking or easily angered...(1Cor.13)*” *But it's equally true that love must involve respect and discipline for a love to be godly. In 1 Samuel 2, Eli the High Priest spoiled his children rotten. His two sons were never disciplined from childhood on by their father. God asked Eli: “Why do you honor your sons more than me?” (In other words, why do you care more about your kids' feelings than Mine.) Ultimately, God judged the spoiled behavior of Eli's sons with death – the grief over which killed Eli. Happy will be the home that takes to heart the need for love sometimes to be tough, heeding the words of Proverbs: “Do not withhold discipline from a child; If you punish him with the rod, he will not die. Punish him with the rod and save his soul from death(23:13).”*

On Mother's Day (May 10) and Father's Day (June 18), we are thankful for the gift of Christian parents, who cared enough not to indulge our every whim (and there were many!),



*Pastor continued....*

sharing with us that which is most important for our salvation – a faith solidly grounded in Christ. A Christian parent sees their role - not as their child's best friend - but their parent. God Himself cares for children through parents, which brings tremendous dignity and honor to this station in life. Children honor God by respecting their parents. Christian parents take seriously their role as “masks” for God, those who speak the very Word of God to their children, pray with them, feed them, bring them to the services of God's house, and yes, discipline them.

For Luther, there could be no higher vocation in life than that of wife and mother or husband and father. No other station in life provided such opportunity to “*take up the cross and follow Jesus.*” *No other station involved such often thankless and difficult work. If Christ could say that in clothing the naked, feeding the hungry, tending the sick “what was done for the least of these was done for Him”, no station more than parent is so often called to lives up to those awesome tasks. Of course, none of those works by mom or dad or by anyone else merits salvation before God, but we sure are thankful to God and to our mothers and fathers!*

Thanks be to God for Christian parents!

Pastor Steve Sommerer

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## LCMS Stewardship Ministry- *What Do You Want?*

One of the best-known and most-beloved psalms is Psalm 23, the “Shepherd Psalm.” There we learn that the Lord is our Shepherd. And since He is our Shepherd, we will not want. We will not suffer want because the Lord, our Shepherd, will lead us to green pastures and beside still waters. In other words, the Lord, our Shepherd, will provide for all that we need in both body and soul.

Yet, we live as though this is not the case. We live as though we actually suffer from want, that the Lord, our Shepherd, will not provide for all that we need. And thus, we live as though the Lord is not our Shepherd. And that means that we live as though we are not the Lord's sheep.

When do we live as though the Lord is not our Shepherd? When we put anything else before Him and His provision for us. When we think that going to work is more important than receiving His gifts in church on Sunday (in violation of the First and Third Commandments). When we fail to give generously of the first fruits of what the Lord has provided for us because we don't know what the future will bring (even though He has promised that He will lead us to green pastures and still waters).

We live as though we are not the Lord's sheep when we think that the Lord is only in the business of helping those who will help themselves. We act this way because our minds are set on earthly, temporal things and not on heavenly, eternal things. We act this way because we have stopped hearing the call of our Shepherd, which comes through His Word.

Through the Word of God, the Shepherd calls us to Himself. Through the Word, the Holy Spirit gathers and enlightens us with His gifts. Through the Word, we are kept holy and nourished in the one true faith, the faith that follows our Shepherd wherever He leads us. He promises to lead us to our true home, to the land flowing with milk and honey, to a better country, not of this world, but a heavenly one.

And so, here's the Good News: the Lord is your Shepherd, even and especially for wayward sheep. For Jesus seeks and saves those who are lost. He finds the lost sheep and carries them back to the fold. He is the Shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep. The Lord is your Shepherd. Let us live as His sheep.