

January 2024

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



January 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1 <i>Office Closed</i>	2 10am Bible Study	3 <i>Preschool resumes</i> 10am-12pm Crafters 4pm Midweek 6pm Confirmation	4	5	6
7 8:45am Bible Class/SS 10am Worship 11:30am Elder's Meeting	8 <i>Pastors day off</i>	9 10am Bible Study 5:30pm Council	10 4pm Midweek 6pm Confirmation	11	12	13
14 8:45am Bible Class/SS 10am Worship 11:30 Building Committee 11:30am undecorate	15 <i>Pastors day off</i>	16 10am Bible Study	17 4pm Midweek 6pm Confirmation	18	19	20
21 8:45am Bible Class/SS 10am Worship 11:30am Voters Meeting	22 <i>Pastors day off</i>	23 10am Bible Study 3pm Hats of Love	24 4pm Midweek 6pm Confirmation	25	26	27
28 8:45am Bible Class/SS 10am Worship 11:30am Card making	29 <i>Pastors day off</i>	30 10am Bible Study	31			No LWML meeting in January

Happy Birthday

- 9- Emily Karssen
- 9- Diane Beversdorf
- 11- Mia Cansino
- 12- Nancy Lindberg
- 13- Les Lindsey
- 13- Gabe Cansino
- 14- Gwen Wells
- 15- Bob Ramage
- 15- Jennifer DeWolfe
- 18- Matt Wells
- 23- Dalton Engel
- 23- Rhonda Peterson
- 23- Joyce Wolfe
- 25- Marc Kugler
- 25- Shari Meeker
- 27- Julie Donnelly
- 30- Courtney Donovan

Happy Anniversary

none

Attendance for the month of December

Date	Worship	Communion
12/3	98	70
12/6	57	—
12/10	78	59
12/13	56	—
12/17	94	66
12/20	57	—
12/24 10am	93	—
12/24 5pm	100	—
12/25	41	29
12/31		

Baptism Birthdays

- 1-1 Donna Bolin
- 1-10 Darla Westergreen
- 1-11 Alex Pitman
- 1-21 Emily Karssen
- 1-26 Jon Schlake
- 1-27 Jennifer DeWolfe

In Our Prayers

Health concerns:

Joyce Wolfe	Dan Brackett
Theresa Clark	Anita Reinertsen
Janalee Gutierrez	Mitch Jacobs
Bob Donley	Guy Hood
Deb Lescallett	Ethan Meeker
Natalie Gonzalez	Dale Matheny
Rebecca Smith	Jen Baughman & sister

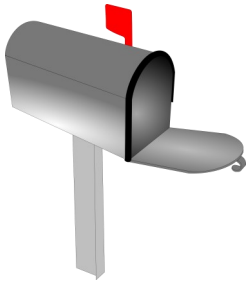
Aiden Meeker, grandson of Mark & Shari
 Dianna James, Michelle Peterson's mom
 Julie & Steve Brandt
 Justin, Dean & Darla's son
 Tom, Brittany's dad, cancer
 Eileen, Kadin Stokes' grandmother, cancer

Others:

Pastor Meeker, Deaconess Lorna and 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



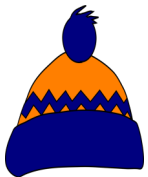
Offering envelopes for 2024 have been distributed into the church mailboxes. Please contact the church office if you do not have any and would like some.

Please check your mailboxes frequently and make sure the office has your email. To save on postage, our first attempt to get something to you will be to place it in your church mailbox or to email you. If for some reason, you do not have a mailbox, or the office doesn't have your email, please talk to Leah.

Thank you to those who beautified our church at Christmas.
Our poinsettias were given by:



- ◆ Randy & Kim Noe– In celebration of the Christ Child
 - ◆ Tm & Janet Laugesen– In thanksgiving for our families
 - ◆ The Kugler Family- To the Glory of God
 - ◆ Julie Donnelly– In loving memory of Norm & Shirley Hickenbottom
 - ◆ Joyce Wolfe– In loving memory of my husband, Harold Wolfe
 - ◆ Julie Brandt– In loving memory of Aunt Bonnie and our parents
 - ◆ Robert & Laura Nichols– In thanksgiving for our family
-



Hats of Love will start up meetings again in January!
Join us on Jan. 23rd at 3pm.
We meet the 4th Tuesday of very month.
Bring any items you have made and come enjoy fellowship!



LWML will not meet in January.
The February meeting will be on Thursday, February 1st at 1pm.

Voter's Meeting will be on Jan. 21st after church.
Lunch will be served- mark your calendars!



Thank You!

A great big THANK YOU for all who were involved with all the activities around church in December– whether it was providing meals, decorating, or helping with fundraisers. **We are so thankful for you** and your willingness to help! We pray that God richly blesses your new year!

Crafters will meet Wednesday, Jan 3rd from 10am-12pm.
Bring your crafty things and work on them while you fellowship.



Preschool News

We pray that you had a blessed Christmas season! The preschool Christmas programs were beautiful and very well attended. We collected non-perishable food items for the Rescue Mission, which is at its new location in the former Neilson School.

In January we will celebrate National Lutheran Schools Week! We will also have a special Scholarship Fund drive. SO many of our school families have benefitted from your generosity!

Preschool families will collect baby items for the Women's Pregnancy Center for our January SHARING. We will begin registration for Mt Calvary members and currently enrolled families on January 16th and in February we will open registration to the community.

Cassandra completed her classes for her Associates in Arts degree!! GREAT JOB!! Kayla continues her course work to become "Director Qualified". Two classes to go! Please keep our staff and school families in your prayers!

FLOWER CHART

A new flower chart has been posted. We will use the flowers for two weeks. The price will be \$70 for two weeks. Make checks payable to **Mt. Calvary** and give the dedication for the bulletin to Leah in the church office. If you have any questions contact Leah.



Update your contact information with Leah!

With several new members, we will be printing new church directories in the new year and want to make sure we have the right information for you! Update Leah with any information that has changed: address, phone number, email, etc. Thank you!

Knox County Right to Life January Meeting will be on Tuesday, Jan. 9th at 7pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 2401 N. Broad St. Galesburg.



The Annual March of Life is happening in Washington DC on Friday, January 19, 2024. The theme for this year is "Together, We March for Life". Pray for safety for those marching and that hearts will be opened to hear the message of life!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! The Illinois March for Life will be April 17, 2024 in Springfield, IL. The rally will be held at 12:00pm with the march at 1:00pm.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry – January 2024

The Chief Stewards of Humanity: Mom and Dad

St. Paul tells the Ephesians that the first commandment with a specific promise attached to it is, “Honor your father and mother so that it may go well with you, and you may live long in the land” (Eph. 6:2). This promise is one indication of the importance of this commandment. The other thing that highlights the special nature of this commandment is its placement within the Ten Commandments.

The Ten Commandments are clearly organized in two big categories. The first three commandments deal with our relationship with God. This category is called the First Table of the Law. The last seven commandments, the Second Table of the Law, tell us how we should relate to other people. These two tables correspond to what Jesus calls the two greatest commandments: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind,” and “You shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Matt. 22:37–39).

The order of the Second Table of the Law is also important. Murder is a greater sin than adultery, which is a greater sin than stealing, or lying, or coveting. But why is the Fourth Commandment first in the Second Table, ahead of “you shall not murder”? Is disobeying your parents really worse than murder? Or maybe we should give up on thinking these commandments are ordered?

The overall effect of this order is to get us to see our parents as a connection point between our neighbors and our God. Throughout our upbringing our father and mother stand between us and God and deliver His gifts to us: God clothes us, feeds us, protects us and teaches His Word to us through our parents.

So, parents have a very high calling from God. They are called to be stewards of the greatest gift: the gift of life.

Parenting thus gives us a keen insight into all our stewardship. Parents know that they have been given a great treasure in their children, a treasure that does not belong to them, yet for which they feel a great deal of responsibility. Truth be told, every gift we have been given is like this, because everything we have — whether our own personal skills and powers or our wealth and time — is all from God. He entrusts it all to us so that we can use it all and take care of it all for His great purposes.

The Youth Group would like to thank all who purchased Christmas houses, bid on the silent auction baskets or came and ate spaghetti! We are grateful for your support of our youth and their growth in Christ.

Gospel Socks that the youth paired in November with circuit youth were delivered on Dec 13th to the Galesburg Rescue Mission. We also got to tour the new building. The staff was very grateful to have socks to hand out for winter!

An Epiphany Party is in the works! We will let you know details soon!



We will be packing away our sanctuary Christmas decorations on Sunday, Dec 14th after the service. If you are able to help us, we would appreciate the many hands that make light work.

Evangelism will be making Valentines cards for our shut-ins on Sunday, January 28th after the service.
Lunch will be provided for those participating.



DO YOU STILL REMEMBER? Confirmation Quiz for Adults!

1. True or False. The Bible is true because it is the Word of God.
2. Christians... (circle correct answers)
 - a) trust in Jesus alone for the salvation;
 - b) are saved because of their faith;
 - c) are brought to faith by the Holy Spirit;
 - d) believe in the Triune God.
3. True or False. The Triune God means we worship three Gods in one person.
4. The first commandment is most important of all because it...
 - a) demands faith through which the sinner is justified before God;
 - b) all God commands flows from a faith that puts Him first;
 - c) teaches that we must love our neighbor.
5. What goes into your lips when you come to the Lord's Supper?
 - a) bread and wine; b) Christ's body and blood; c) Both
6. How can Jesus be present in the Lord's Supper?
 - a) He says so;
 - b) He's true God and true man;
 - c) It's a miracle we confess, but don't have to understand.
7. What must be present for a Baptism to be a valid/true Baptism?
 - a) God's Word/Formula;
 - b) water;
 - c) A sponsor or godparent;
 - d) the Creed and the Lord's Prayer;
 - e) a pastor to baptize.
8. The Lutheran Church teaches that the article on which the Church stands or falls is that we are justified by grace through faith for Christ's sake? If that's the most important teaching, explain what it means in your own words.
9. True or False. Once you are confirmed, you know enough about your faith without studying God's Word under the supervision or with the guidance of a pastor called by God to teach that Word.
10. The Bible was inspired by God the Holy Spirit. This means...
 - a) It is an exhilarating and inspirational book;
 - b) men wrote the books of the Bible feeling inspired;
 - c) the Holy Spirit is the true author of the Bible through the human agents;
 - d) The Holy Spirit gave the words and thoughts; e) every Word is true.
11. True or False. Someone can be saved apart from faith in Jesus, but only if they never had an opportunity to hear the Gospel.



12. The Church we confess in the creeds is...
- a) invisible;
 - b) created by the Holy Spirit;
 - c) all true believers in Jesus;
 - d) only made up of members of our Lutheran Church Missouri Synod;
 - e) can be recognized by the right teaching of God's Word and administration of the Sacraments;
 - f) destined to grow and be popularly received in the Last Days.
13. True or False. Communion is mostly a private matter so it doesn't matter if churches knowingly commune those who don't recognize the Body and Blood of the Lord.
1Cor.11:27
14. True or False. Prayer doesn't actually "work" because God knows everything in advance.
15. What gets placed on the tongue of every communicant at the altar **regardless of faith or unbelief?**
- a) Bread/Wine;
 - b) Body and Blood;
 - c) Both
16. True or False. Every communicant at a Lutheran altar receives the body and blood of Christ, but those who don't recognize Christ's real body and blood become guilty of sinning against it.

Answers: 1: True; 2: a,c,d; 3: false; 4: a,b; 5: a,b,c; 6:a,b,c; 7: a,b;
8: We are declared righteous by God's undeserved love trusting in Jesus' death and resurrection for us.;
9: False; 10:c,d,e; 11: False, John 14:6; 12: a,b,c,e; 13:False; 14: False; 15: a,b,c;
16: true.

Hope you find it a good refresher! Please join us to study God's Word together. Our faith is to be child-like, not infantile. Be strong in the Word! *Pastor Steven Sommerer*

*Thank
you*

The Building Committee would like to thank all those who have volunteered and supported our fundraisers in 2023. Pizza Ranch, Hy-Vee bagging, beef raffle and pedal tractor have been great ways to raise money for our Education Wing Renovation Fund— along with those who are tithing every week. We are thankful for the support of our Mt Calvary church family and will continue to work towards our current goals in 2024!

**If you have fundraising ideas—please join us at a meeting or talk to a building committee member we would greatly appreciate your ideas and help in continuing our efforts!

Building Committee will meet on Sunday, January 14th after the service.