

April 2024

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



April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>	2	3 10am-12pm Crafters 4pm Midweek 6pm Confirmation	4 1pm LWML	5	6
P R E S C H O O L S P R I N G B R E A K						
7 8:45am Bible Class/SS 10am Worship 11:30am Elders 2pm Circuit Bible Bowl	8 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>	9 10am Bible Study 5pm Council	10 4pm Midweek 6pm Confirmation	11	12	13
14 8:45am Bible Class/SS 10am Worship 11:30am Building Comm 2pm CID Bible Bowl	15 <i>Pastor's day off</i>	16 10am Bible Study	17 4pm Midweek 6pm Confirmation	18	19	20
21 8:45am Bible Class/SS 10am Worship 11:30 Voters Meeting	22 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>	23 10am Bible Study 3pm Hats of Love 6:30pm Confirmation Questioning	24 4pm Midweek	25	26 27 LWML Convention Rock Island, IL	
28 <i>Confirmation</i> 9am breakfast 10am Worship	29 <i>Pastor's Day off</i>	30 10am Bible Study				

Happy Birthday

- 6- Jessica Cansino
- 9- Vickie Stine
- 9- Kyle Engel
- 10- Theresa Clark
- 13- Brent Bernett
- 13- Ava Kersh
- 13- Isabel Kersh
- 15- William Byers
- 16- Madelyn Bird
- 19- Seeley Koch
- 21- Bob Donley
- 23- Derek Lescallett
- 27- Brad DeWolfe

Happy Anniversary

- 1- Julie & Kevir Donnelly
- 7- Jason & Sherry Kersh
- 12- Randall & Kim Noe
- 15- Ralph & Merrily Sargent
- 17- Tim & Janet Laugesen

Baptism Birthdays

- 4-1 Chance Donley
- 4-2 Richard Stine
- 4-2 Brittany Kane
- 4-3 Julian Henry
- 4-10 LeRoy Shoop
- 4-11 Ivan Clark
- 4-12 Megan Sperry
- 4-12 Les Lindsey
- 4-15 Shelly Heimann
- 4-15 Dee Lipe
- 4-19 Melanie Sommerer
- 4-23 Derek Lescallett
- 4-2 Henry Jacobs
- 4-24 Halle Jacobs
- 4-25 Theresa Clark
- 4-30 Rebecca Smith

Whoever believes and is
baptized will be saved.

Mark 16:16a

Attendance for the month of March

Date	Worship	Communion
3/3	90	68
3/6	51	—
3/10	90	68
3/13	44	—
3/17	103	78
3/20	46	—
3/24	94	67
3/28		
3/29		
3/31 7am		
3/31 10am		

In Our Prayers

Health concerns:

Joyce Wolfe	Dan Brackett
Theresa Clark	Anita Reinertsen
Mitch Jacobs	Bob Donley
Deb Lescallett	Ethan Meeker
Rodney Koch	Rebecca Smith
Mason Carlson	Owen Wolfe
Brenda Christensen	Janalee Gutierrez
Jim Lipe	Guy Hood
Fern Harding	

Lucille, Deb Thompson's mom
Dave, Mitch Jacobs dad
Aiden Meeker, grandson Mark & Shari
Gabe's nephew
Fred Concepcion, Nelly Clark's father
Sharon, Pastor's friend
Kathy, in a coma, Rose's cousin
Nancy, Rose's sister

Others:

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



Will you have a graduate this spring?? We want their information! (school, degree, next steps, etc.) Please talk to Leah and let her know all the details! We will be sharing this in the May/June newsletters!

Our Easter Flowers this year are given by:

- Julie Donnelly– To the Glory of God
- Missy Montgomery– In Loving Memory of my mom & dad
- Marc & Lori Kugler– To the Glory of God
- JoAnn Wing– In Loving Memory of my sister, Mina
- Tim & Janet Laugesen– In celebration of our families
- Robert & Laura Nichols– In celebration of our family
- Julie Jordan-Brandt– To the Glory of God
- Dale & Donna Bolin– In Thanksgiving for our family
- Mike & Kayla Bird– In thanksgiving for our family
- Randy & Kim Noe– To the Glory of God, for the gift of spring
- Sharon Gonzalez– To the Glory of God

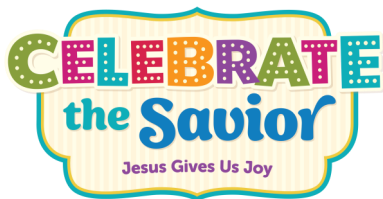


The Lutheran Witness keeps you updated with news from the Synod and teaches you how to interpret the world from a Lutheran perspective. You receive 11 issues (June/July are combined) for the coming year– the subscription renews in July 2024.



If you would like to have a subscription to the Lutheran Witness, please talk to Leah. The subscription cost for 2024 is \$20.65. There is an envelope for the Lutheran Witness subscription in your offering envelope box, or you can turn your money in to Leah in the office.

You must pay for your subscription to receive the magazine. If you have questions, please talk to Leah. Thank you.



VBS Planning is getting underway!
Celebrate the Savior VBS will be held July 22nd-26th!

Lots of helpers will be needed to make this a success so start thinking about how you can contribute! Keep an eye out for a planning meeting date to be determined soon!

Contact Lori Kugler or Leah Koch for more information.

Knox County Right to Life will have its next regular meeting on Tuesday, April 9th at the First Church of the Nazarene, 1501 Webster St. Galesburg.

The meeting will begin at 7pm.

7x7x7 Prayer 7am. 7pm. 7 words: Lord, please, stop abortion in this country.



The **Illinois March for Life** is on Wednesday, April 17th in Springfield, IL. Rally at 12pm at the Capitol, the March kicks off at 1pm.



Hats of Love will meet on Tuesday, April 25th at 3:00pm.
 We welcome new knitters and hope you can join us as we share God's
 love with our community!
 We appreciate donations of yarn if you have any!



Our Mt Calvary Youth have been working hard to learn their way through the Gospel book of John. They will head to the circuit Bible Bowl at Holy Cross, Moline, on April 6th. Depending on the outcome there– the CID Bible Bowl will be held at Camp Cilca on Sunday, April 14th.

They also continue to meet each month to work on stewardship, growing in faith and building fellowship time with each other.

Thank you for your support at their Lenten supper in February!

Thank you!

To the Church Family at Mt. Calvary, Galesburg,
 Thank you for your cards and prayers celebrating our 15th Leap Year Anniversary– after 60 years. We appreciate the memories of our ministry with you and the inspiration to continue God's Kingdom Work. We pray that God continues to Bless all of us to be a blessing for each other and other people.

Rev. William and Ann Duey
 Grace Lutheran Village - 21 Concordia Drive, Paris, IL 61944

Preschool News

Registration for the 2024-2025 school year is going well! We still have openings, so please let your family and friends know about us. Thank you!

Our PTO is sponsoring a fundraiser with Little Caesars Pizza Kits. Please see Leah, Jeanie or Kayla. Thank you! Orders and money are due by Sunday, April 14th and delivery will be the week of April 29th. Exact date/time to be determined!

Parent Teacher conferences were held this month.

Students enjoyed painting ceramic banks at our Art Defined trip. Next month we will visit Discovery Depot! Thank you PTO!

Easter Break will be from March 29th – April 5th. School resumes on Monday, April 8th. May you have a blessed Easter!

LCMS Stewardship Ministry Newsletter Article – April 2024 Whose Is It Anyway?

If you have ever bought or sold a house, you are acquainted with the concept of a “title search.” Before you can sell your house, and before anyone else will feel comfortable putting down the money to buy it, you have to prove that you really own it. So a title company looks through the public records to ensure that you bought it from the person who really owned it, who bought it from the person who really owned it before that, all the way back to the earliest records of your state, including when your state was only a territory or colony of England.

Peak into a preschool classroom during playtime and you’ll see a simplified version of this. A child starts playing with a ball, but another child says, “That’s mine: I had it first.”

You can’t understand the Seventh Commandment without understanding this concept of ownership or title. As the Small Catechism puts it:

You shall not steal. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor’s money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

Your neighbor’s possessions are his: you don’t have a right to take them. And likewise, your possessions are yours. Ownership and property rights are foundational to any functioning society.

But there is something deeper to know about ownership, and that is the question of who has the title and ownership to you? Paul says, “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price” (1 Cor. 6:19–20).

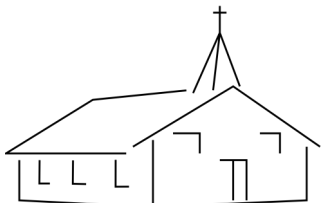
If you yourself are owned by God, then of course everything that you own, you really only possess by God’s leave: all of it, at bottom, belongs to Him since you belong to Him. For you were bought with the blood of Christ.

This notion is the foundation of all Christian stewardship. It all belongs to God. It should all be used for things that bring honor to His name, blessings to our neighbors and the extension of His kingdom.

Mt Calvary Building Committee would like to thank everyone for their continued support in our fundraising project!

*We are hosting a Railroad Trivia Night here at Mt Calvary on June 29th. Doors will open at 5pm, trivia will begin at 6pm. Food and bake sale items will be available for purchase along with tickets to win some raffle baskets!

Invite all you railroad enthusiast friends and family to sign up their team for a great time!



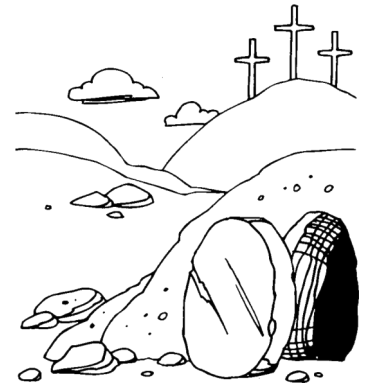
*we are working on several food fundraiser nights and will get you more details when those are set up!



Mark your calendar!

Evangelism would love your help creating Mother's Day cards for our shut-ins! Join us on Sunday, May 5th after church to help us create some cards. Lunch will be provided for those participating. We greatly appreciate your help!

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!" Luke 24:1-6a



Confirmand Questioning will take place on Tuesday, April 23rd at 6:30pm. We invite you to join us and hear from this young man his profession of faith.

Confirmation Sunday will be on Sunday, April 28th. A breakfast in his honor will begin at 9:00am, with the Rite of Confirmation happening in our 10am Service.

Our confirmand this year is:

Aaron Kugler

Galatians 2:20 *I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*

Come to the April Voter's Meeting on April 21st after our worship service. Lunch will be a baked potato bar. Keep up to date on all things happening at Mt Calvary!



LWML Will meet on Thursday, April 4th at 1 pm. Topic will be presented by Janalee and Melanie will be the hostess. Roll call will be a favorite church spring memory. Guests are always welcome!



Crafters will meet on Wednesday, April 3rd from 10:00am to 12:00pm.

“If Christ has not been raised from the dead, our teaching is in vain.(1 Cor. 15:14)”

Few scholars deny Jesus of Nazareth walked on the earth nearly 2000 years ago, that He was a successful teacher and that He was put to death as a revolutionary figure. Many believe He was too naïve to work within the spiritual and political framework of His day, others that he represented a threat to Rome’s power in occupied Judea. But beyond that, few secular scholars believe that Jesus rose from the dead. The real, true, bodily resurrection of Jesus has been called the linchpin of Christianity.

We can’t prove the resurrection to someone who doesn’t want to believe, but there are compelling reasons to accept the testimony of Scripture. It’s OK to use our head and weigh the evidence. Jesus said, *“You shall know the truth, and the truth will set you free...Love the Lord your God...with all your mind.”* *What does the evidence say? It can’t be treated at length here, but many excellent books have been written on the subject and deserve attention. (Paul Maier’s book, The First Easter, was used for this article and is found in the library. Briefly summarized here.)*

On the reliability of the Gospel records... If the authors were lying, would they have described themselves as hiding out in fear while the women went to find the empty tomb? More likely if they were inventing a story, they would portray themselves as brave and fearless. Women were considered unreliable witnesses and were unable to testify in court in those days. If they wanted to fabricate the resurrection story, would they have chosen women to find and report the empty tomb? The apostolic witness would form the foundation of the Church until the Gospels were later collected. If the resurrection never happened and the disciples were perpetrating a hoax, would they have allowed their own writings to undermine their reputation. Obviously, never! The only thing that could describe the “warts and all” picture of the disciples we get in the Gospels is that they were telling it how it was.

If the Jews wished to squelch the rumor of the resurrection, they could have said the body was still there. Instead, they acknowledged its disappearance with a theft story – passed on by generations of Jewish teachers in early writings. (This is evidence against one’s interest.) While early Jewish historians say that Christ’s body was stolen, they all agree the tomb was empty. Christ body wasn’t produced to deny the claims. Would the disciples have all (except John, so far as we know) become martyrs dying horrible deaths for a cause they **knew to be a lie**? *Would cowardly ex-fisherman be emboldened to change the world with their preaching if it was false and they knew it was false? Of course not! How are we to account for Paul’s radical transformation from persecutor to apostle apart from seeing the Living Savior? The only thing that explains the transformed lives is a genuine encounter with the risen Christ.*

Archaeologists found a marble inscription in Nazareth dating to the first half of the first century which prescribes death for grave robbers. All previous Roman edicts found on tombs prescribe only a large fine. One wonders what made the penalty be increased and in the region of Nazareth.

Paul’s transformation has already been noted, but what of the surprising change of Jesus’ skeptical brother who became a leader in His brother’s cause after His death? What would change the disappointed brother, perhaps a resurrection appearance described in 1Cor.15?

If the disciples were perpetuating a hoax, would they have dared to start it from Jerusalem where it could most easily have been squelched? Why not elsewhere? If you’re going to spread a lie, you don’t start it where everyone could shout you down. The only thing that could account for the quick launch of the Church after Pentecost (aside from the Holy Spirit!) is that no one could disprove the claim that Jesus had risen – and many could substantiate it – more than 500 people! (1Cor.15)

The Jews hold very strongly the observance of Sabbath worship. Yet, Christianity a supposed “Jewish sect”, from the very beginning worshipped on Sunday not Saturday. What could have accounted for such rapid and universally accepted change, aside from a resurrection? (Try passing that-or anything that has to do with worship-at church council, if you don’t believe that’s a big piece of evidence.)

Paul lists a large list of witnesses (500+) to the risen Christ in 1 Cor. 15 (cf. Gospels). Each of these would have been called upon to confirm or deny the testimony. Could such a large conspiracy have ever withstood the interrogation, persecution, and eventually horrible deaths that most endured? People will die for lies (example Islamic suicide bombers), but no one will die for what they know to be a lie. IOW’s... The disciples knew they had seen Jesus alive!

There are many compelling reasons to accept the truth of Christ’s resurrection. This only scratches the surface. The power of His Word and the testimony of 20 centuries and millions of lives continue to testify powerfully to the resurrection of Christ. We have a sure and certain hope that death is not the end. *“Where O death is your victory? Where O death is your sting?” Christ has risen! He has risen indeed! Alleluia!*

Soli Deo Gloria! Pastor Steve Sommerer