



OCTOBER, 2018

...IN SACRED PLACES...

CELEBRATING MINISTRIES OF CALVARY AND ZION LUTHERAN CHURCHES



Dana Westring, son of Elaine Westring, donated a beautiful and original mural to Calvary Swede Home. The mural is a ten foot by eight foot and is an oil painting with an acrylic base. Dana's mural was installed on Tuesday, September 18th. The mural depicts a joyful assortment of 20 subjects ranging in ages from bald-headed infant to gray-haired seniors. It was inspired by the Swedish heritage in which he was raised.

Dana is a world renoun artist who has traveled the world completing a diverse collection works in many mediums. His work is featured in the Rose Theater in Omaha to Saudi Arabia to southeast Asia.

A well attended reception was held at Swede Home on Tuesday, September 18th to show off the new mural. If you haven't had a chance to see it yet, come check it out. It has been installed on the north wall of the fellowship hall. Thank you Dana Westring for this unique gift!

**A full article is in the Polk County Newspaper.*

THANK YOU . . .

Dear Friends,
Thank you so much for your donation of 18 quilts to Mission Hearts in Central City. Our director, Ellie Sizer wanted this thank you sent for your generosity!

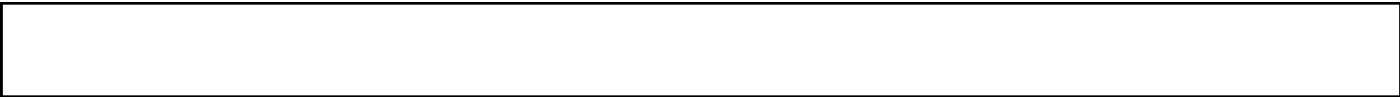
Sincerely,
Scott Welk, Secretary



Back row (L to R) Darlene Booker, Cheryl Jones, Gladys Johnson, & Linda Jones, Front row (L to R) Mabel Hinkle, Lenore Kessler & Gloria Oquist.

Thank you to everyone who worked on the beautiful quilts that were donated to Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries annual quilt auction at Camp Carol Joy Holling. Quilts donated by Swede Home were sold for a total of \$355. Thank you for your hard work.

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Joy

Joy comes by invitation or when it's least expected.

Lightheartedness bubbling over spilling on those in our vicinity brightening our day and the day of those near us.

Joy cannot be contained.

Its buoyancy requires the freedom to expand. Spreading throughout our being, it brings a twinkle to the eyes, a smile to the face, a spring to the step.

Joy is a hug sharing the warmth of companionship, the love of friendship, the understanding of family. It is passed on easily.

We are enchanted by a joyful spirit. We cannot help ourselves.

We yearn for joy in this stressful life, often unknowingly. When it comes close we embrace its essence with gaiety, the happiness, the bliss feeling its warmth and lightness and hope flow through us.

Joy is a dance, a sunny day, a giggle that turns to lilting laughter, a song, an encompassing warmth.

It is contagious, spirit lifting, accepted, embraced, welcomed.

It is a light that brightens the day, lightens the heart, and lifts the spirit.

Joy is a blessing running over, bringing pleasure and delight, spreading its glow to all in its way.

- Donna Johnson

Thank You...

Thank you! Thrivent Choice Dollars are such a blessing to our ministry at Carol Joy Holling and Sullivan Hills. Camp nearly received \$16,500 in Thrivent Choice Dollars last year! These funds are used to operate camping programs and to ensure that every child who wants to attend camp gets the opportunity. Thank you to all who directed their choice dollars to us. Your gifts makes a real impact in the lives of our campers.

Jason Gerdes
Executive Director
Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries

W.E.L.C.A. NEWS

We've certainly jumped from hot summer days into cool autumn mornings! Many from our area are involved with harvest, so please keep them in your prayers to have a safe and bountiful harvest season.

*Service for month of October is an offering for Adopt-a-Quilt or donate a blanket to be used for keeping the needy warm.

*Altar care for October will be Jean Waller. November will be Carol Jones.

*Flowers in October will be by Mary Anna circle. November & December will be by Miriam circle. Thank you for watering any plants also. (If you'd like to order poinsettias from B. Marie's in Osceola for Christmas, please do it soon. They have a baby due early December, so she's trying to get a jump on holiday orders.)

*Quilting fun and fellowship will be on October 25. Please join us for the last group quilting day of the year. We will plan to begin again in February or March.

*Highway pick up is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 14, with rain date 10/21. We will meet at Monty & Cheryl's (13088 J Rd.) at 3:00 p.m. and we'll have food and fellowship afterwards.

*Bingo at Midwest Covenant Home on Oct. 30 at 2:00 pm by Miriam & Mary Anna circles. Thanks.

OCTOBER

Hostess/Dessert Bible Study

Ruth – 10/10 Cheryl Cheryl

Mary Anna- 10/11 Lenore Lenore

Miriam – 10/12 Gloria ???

“As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.” ~ Genesis 8:22

Cheryl

MISSION AND MINISTRY

On long road to recovery, hurricane survivors are not alone

In the second half of 2017, a rapid succession of disasters—wildfires, floods and hurricanes—interrupted the lives of millions of our neighbors. Thanks to your generous gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR), our church has been able to accompany survivors of these disasters as they rebuild their lives. LDR works through a robust network of companion churches, partners, social ministry organizations and synods. Together, they respond comprehensively, from providing immediate assistance like food and shelter to working on long-term support like rebuilding homes and providing counseling. Often this work continues for 10 or more years after a disaster. The disasters in 2017 included a series of hurricanes that affected many in the United States and the Caribbean.

Hurricane Harvey

In August, Hurricane Harvey tore through the southern U.S. causing severe flooding and major damage. LDR is working with Upbring (formerly Lutheran Social Services of the South) and two of the Texas ELCA synods on recovery efforts. LDR is part of a group doing case management for survivors of disasters and expects to be working long-term in the Dickinson and Rockport areas in Texas. “People are overwhelmed with the process,” said Beverly Davis of Houston, “but they are also overwhelmed with love of the church, the neighbor and the stranger.” A respite retreat was also held for ELCA rostered ministers who have faithfully supporting members of their congregation affected by Hurricane Harvey for months.

Hurricane Maria and Irma

Hurricane Irma, one of the strongest hurricanes of the 2017 season, made its first landfall on the island of Antigua and then tore through several more Caribbean islands before reaching the U.S. mainland. In Haiti and Cuba, LDR replaced lost tools for farmers affected by the hurricane so they can get back to work, helped woman-headed households with cash assistance, and helped families get daily life back to normal with dishes, cookware and blankets.

In Florida, LDR supported crisis counseling for thousands of people in 20 counties and continues to work closely with the Florida-Bahamas Synod to assist affected congregations. And in Georgia, LDR is collaborating with Lutheran Services of Georgia to provide professional services such as disaster case management and volunteer management to support rebuilding over the next several years.

(Continued top of the page)

(Continued Mission and Ministry)

On Irma’s heels, Hurricane Maria struck the Caribbean with destruction and loss of life. Damage to the electrical grid left many residents in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands without electricity for weeks or months, leading to myriad complications, including business closures and loss of jobs. LDR has provided emergency relief supplies, including mattresses, to survivors, and supported pastors so that they can focus on caring for their congregations and communities. In Puerto Rico, the Caribbean Synod hosted a lunch in Toa Baja, one of the most affected communities, serving nearly 500 people a hot meal. In addition, LDR helped hire a director for disaster response and a case manager to coordinate between responding groups. The Lutheran camp in Puerto Rico is expected to be renovated to accommodate volunteers for years to come. In the U.S. Virgin Islands, LDR is supporting Lutheran Social Services of the Virgin Islands as it provides crisis counseling and prepares for a multi-year volunteer rebuild program in St. Croix. “Virgin Islanders are strong and caring people,” said Christopher Finch, director, LDR, Lutheran Social Services of the Virgin Islands. “We have been hit hard, and so many are suffering. Despite this, people are joining together and supporting each other and forging a recovery out of the devastation.”

SWEDE HOME FOOD PANTRY



The Evangelism and Outreach Team oversees a nonperishable food and personal care item collection. You are welcome to bring donations at any time. ***Please place items you wish to donate in the basket located in the entry way of the church.***

Items are usually delivered the last week of the month. In October, your donations will go to Blue Valley Community Action in Osceola.

Most recipients of Blue Valley Food Bank are families of 4 headed with working parents with little extra time. Canned meats are especially needed, Boxed Dinners, Canned Fruits, and Vegetables, and Breakfast Cereal are always needed as well. Dessert mixes are a special treat. All items we donate are greatly appreciated by the recipients as they meet their critical needs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark Your Calendar

Highway pick up is scheduled for Sunday, October 14, with a rain date of 10/21. Please meet at Monty & Cheryl's at 3:00 p.m. so we can put on vests, gloves & split up to get the job done. Join us for food & fellowship afterwards, too. This is a fun "God's Work, Our Hands" event sponsored by Swede Home. Monty & Cheryl's address is 13088 J Rd



Adult Faith Formation Class

There will be an adult faith formation class on the Lord's Prayer at Camp Carol Joy Holling on Saturday, October 20th from 9am-4pm. This class will take a look at Luther's Small Catechism and consider what is behind the words we pray. Cost for the class is \$25. To register, go to cjhcenter.org/aff

Pastor Appreciation

Calvary will be doing a special coffee after worship on Sunday, October 28th to honor Pastor Kim; October is Pastor Appreciation Month and October 23rd is also her birthday. All are invited to celebrate!



Zion Trunk or Treat

Zion will host their 2nd Trunk or Treat on October 31st at 5:00pm—7:00pm on the street in front of the church. What is Trunk or Treat? It is a fun way of celebrating Halloween for church and community youth. Decorate your car trunk as much or as little as you would like (for some very elaborate ideas check out this website: <http://www.thedatingdivas.com/kids-korner/trunk-or-treat-ideas/>) and park it outside of Zion on Halloween evening in time for Trick-or-Treating. Come and enjoy fellowship, getting to see kids in their Halloween costumes, and hand out lots of candy. If you have any questions, please talk to Gina.

Zion First Communion Class

First Communion class will be Tuesday, October 16th at Zion from 4:30pm—6pm. First Communion Classes are open to youth grade three and older. We will celebrate First Communion at Zion on Sunday, October 21st.

Calvary First Communion Class

First Communion classes will be held at Swede Home on Saturday, October 20th at 10am. First Communion Classes are open to youth grade three and older. We will celebrate First Communion on Sunday, October 21st.



Calvary Sunday School Schedule

- October 7th, Intergenerational Sunday School (meet in Sunday School basement) taught Lynn Hofmann
- October 14th, Sunday School teacher—Tina Watts, helper Kris Udey
- October 21st, Sunday School teacher—Cheryl Jones, helper Jen Fjell
- October 28th, Sunday School teacher—Clayton Watts, helpers Stephanie Mattson and Izzy Zurovski

Holy Baptism

Holy Baptism will be celebrated at Swede Home on Sunday, October 7th. Join us as we welcome Emersyn Jo McCarville as a member of our family of faith.

Holy Baptism

Join us at Zion on Sunday, October 21st for the baptism of Axton Martin.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Freed For Life

Friday, November 9th, 5:30pm—8:00pm

**Sheridan Lutheran Church, 70th & Old
Cheney**

Lincoln, NE

Reservations are \$25 each or \$200 for a table of 7 plus a FEAST representative (if available)

Your contributions support:

- **Nebraska Synod ELCA, Followers of Christ Prison Ministry**
- **Bridges of Hope, which provides clothing and household items to reentrants**
- **The FEAST at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, which assists with Lincoln Community Correctional Center inmates**

Keynote speaker, Mr. Hopwood, is an American appellate lawyer and professor of law at Georgetown University Law Center. He became well-known as a jailhouse lawyer who served time in prison for a bank robbery. While in prison, he started spending time in the law library, and became an accomplished United States Supreme Court practitioner by the time he left in 2009. His interview on CBS 60 Minutes can be viewed at : <http://vimeo.com/prisonconsult/shon-hopwood-on-60-minutes>

If you cannot attend the dinner, "program only" tickets for \$10 are available at the door at 6:30pm.

Please register by November 2nd online at freedforlife.org or by mailing the form on in the insert.

2019 Mission Trip

Metro Ministries of Denver, CO

July 7-13, 2019

We will partner with Metro Ministries to bring hope to those in need, while also having the opportunity to see the changes and challenges the city of Denver is facing. We will work with local pastors to bring Sidewalk Sunday School into different neighborhoods, giving kids a safe place to learn about the love of Jesus Christ.

We will worship while taking in a beautiful mountain view. Additionally, we will spend time in beauty and wonder of God's creation with a day to Rocky Mountain National Park.

This trip is open to youth (who have completed grade 6) AND adults, cost will be determined once we have numbers of participants.

**For more information please contact Pastor Kim*



Calvary Lutheran Church
Nebraska Synod, ELCA
950 129th Road
Stromsburg, NE 68666
Church Phone: (402)764-5981

Doug Jones, Council President
Diana Johnson, Organist
Brianne Schoch, Secretary
LeAnn Willhoft, Custodian

Council Members:
Linda Fuhr, Doug Jones, Todd Hanquist, Lynn Hofmann, Kay
Jones, Nick Nicholson,
Chris Smith
All Calvary members, Ministers

Rev. Kimberly Belken
Pastor
(402) 764-0481 (cell)
(402) 764-5961 (parsonage)
(402) 764-5981 (church office)
kimberlyrbelken@gmail.com

Zion Lutheran Church
Nebraska Synod, ELCA
202 Sherman
Benedict NE 68316

Council President Cal Bittinger
Diana Johnson & Craig Swdenberg, Musicians
Chris Jarosz, Sunday School

Council Members:
Cal Bittinger, LuAnn Bolton, Dawn Kush, Justin Schoch
All of Zion members, Ministers

Reminder

Reminder that if you have items that need to be in the newsletter, please have those to Bri by the 20th of the month. You can email them to calvaryswedehome-church@gmail.com

MEET A MEMBER

Meet Jim and Bonnie Carlson...

Bonnie Carlson grew up on a farm in the valley 18 miles north of Osceola with her mother Letha, stepfather Charles Soll, older brother, Bob Viergutz, Kay Jones, and Bill and Chuck Soll. Her brother, Bob passed away just a few weeks ago.

After graduating from Osceola High School Bonnie worked in Columbus for a short time before she married. She has three children, Andrew and Daniel Ienn and Sarah Hopwood. Andrew lives in Lincoln, is married and has two daughters, three step children and a grandson. Dan lives in Osceola with his wife Fawn and their children Ryleigh and Brody. Sarah lives in Shelby with her husband Rodney and their daughters Britany and Jaimie.

When Jim was 12 years old he moved with his parents Bud and Alice Carlson and his two brothers Craig and Ben to the house on Twin Pines Road west of Swede Home. For a time after moving to the neighborhood the Carlson's attended Calvary.

Jim was partner at the locker in Osceola where he worked in the family business for 18 years. Jim is currently the Polk County weed superintendent where he has worked for the last 26 years. Bonnie was court house custodian for 35 years before her retirement. Bonnie and Jim got to know each other working at the court house.

Bonnie and Jim married in 1998. They live together in the house where Jim has lived most of his life. After his mother, Alice passed away, Jim and Bonnie along with Jim's father Bud and his brother Ben became active members when Donna Durette was pastor. Jim and Bonnie serve as ushers and provide coffee after church. Bonnie is a member of Ruth circle, is an offering counter and does altar care. Jim has been on the church council.

Bonnie and Jim enjoy doing things together. They are gardeners, Jim plants and Bonnie harvests and tends her flower garden. They have each won numerous awards and trophies from trap shooting. Jim still competes while Bonnie keeps score. They both enjoy hunting and each has trophy deer decorating their walls. Bonnie has stopped shooting since retirement but still goes along. They also enjoy trips to the horse races. Bonnie likes having time since her retirement for bird watching, both enjoy spending time with grandchildren and going to their games.



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS



Melissa Forsberg
Lenore Kessler
Denny Johnson
Linda Johnson
June Larson
Elvin Reetz
Imo Richardson

Harvey Schlegelmilch
Vance & Elaine Toline
Jan Well-Bachman

- Denver Metro Ministries
- Genesis House and Living Waters Rescue Mission, Blue Valley Action
- Houses for Health recipients.
- Table Grace Café
- Bishop Brian Maas and the Nebraska Synod staff
- Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and all ELCA congregations and members
- Pastor Bob Bryan and the Nebraska Synod Prison Ministry
- Our ELCA Partner Synod—Pacifica Synod
- Our companion synods in Tanzania and Argentina

To request prayers call

Calvary: Jan Ernst 402-747-8041

Zion: LuAnn Bolton 402-710-8708

ANNIVERSARIES

CALVARY:

October 6th
Mike & Deb Cramer

October 15th
Wendy & Kelley Shafenberg

October 23rd
Carey & Linda Clauff

ZION:

October 2nd
Ken & Dawn Kush

October 21st
Gary & Janet Hild



BIRTHDAYS

CALVARY:

03—Clayton Watts
05—Tamara Rowse
07—Andrew Adelson
09—Kent Adelson
Elaine Toline
10—Randy Lott
18—Ava Ernst
Clerissa Udey
20—Corinne Adelson
21—Nate Johnson
Peter Jones
22—Gabe Hanquisit
23—Pastor Kimberly Belken
24—Corey Watts
27—Yancy Krol
28—Rick Jones
31—Anita Haack
Marvin Larson

ZION:

09—Cal Bittinger
12—Donna Stearns
20—JoAnne Bolton

ZION WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

OCTOBER

Communion Assistant: Dawn Kush

Usher: Gary Hild

Greeter: Janet Hild

Reader:

7—Gary Hild, 14—Gina Schoch, 21—Dawn Kush, 28—Bri Schoch

Acolyte:

7—Isaac Reetz, 14—Lyndsey Bolton, 21—Harley Martin, 28—
Tierney Schoch

CALVARY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

October

Assistant Ministers—
Scripture Reader—Brody Ienn
Ushers— Dan & Fawn Ienn
Acolyte—Kolton Neuhjahr
Altar Care— Jean Waller
Bell Ringer— Chris Smith

October 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 6p Confirmation @ Salem 7p Council Meeting	4	5	6
7 8:30a Zion Holy Communion Wor- ship 9:15a Calvary SS 9:30a Zion SS 10:30a Calvary Holy Communion Wor- ship	8	9	10 6p Confirmation @ Salem 7p Men's Bible Study 7p Ruth's WELCA Circle	11 2p Mary Anna's WELCA Circle	12 9a Miriam's WELCA Circle	13
14 8:30a Zion Worship 9:15a Calvary SS 9:30a Zion SS 10:30a Calvary Wor- ship 3p Highway Clean Up	15	16 4:30pm 1st Com- munion Class @ Zion	17 6p Confirmation	18	19	20 10am 1st Commun- ion Class @ Swede Home
21 8:30a Zion Holy Communion Wor- ship 9:15a Calvary SS 9:30a Zion SS 10:30a Calvary Holy Communion Wor- ship	22	23	24 6p Confirmation @ Salem	25 9a Quilt Day	26	27
28 8:30a Zion Worship 9:15a Calvary SS 9:30a Zion SS 10:30a Calvary Wor- ship	29 Pastor Kim @ Syn- od Theological Conference	30	31			

Know God, Love God, Share God's Love

Council Notes, September 5, 2018

Pastor opened the meeting with the book *Called by God to Serve – Reflections for Church Leaders* by Robert F. Holley & Paul E. Walters.

- Sunday School begins September 16, 2018. Tina Watts, Cheryl Jones, Clayton Watts and Lynn Hofmann will be teaching classes. Nick and Carol Nicholson have agreed to teach once in November and if someone needs a substitute.
- Dana is installing the mural Tuesday, September 18. An open house will be held from 3:30-6:30. Carol Dickson and Jean Waller will take care of the reception.
- Discussion has been held about the confirmation picture display case as they are all full as well as updating the confirmation marquee. Kay Jones will be contacting other churches to see what they do for displaying confirmation records and pictures.
- It has been approved for Double G Audio from Columbus to replace the sound system in the church. The memorial committee has agreed to help financially with the purchase of the sound system.
- Nebraska Brass will be performing at Calvary Sunday, March 17. As this date gets closer, more details will be made available.
- The 2019 Mission trip has been scheduled for July 7-13 to Denver Metro Ministries. Besides the high school youth, adults are welcome to attend.
- Seven students have expressed interest in confirmation classes to be held the 1st Wednesday of the month. Pastor shared with council confirmation requirements that will be explained to students and parents.

Treasurer's Report

August 2018

Beginning Balance	\$71.87
<u>Offering:</u>	
General Offering	9772.00
ELCA Disaster Relief	5.00
ELCA Mission Share	200.00
Zion June Share	1931.77
	<u>11363.77</u>

Expenses:

Vanco eCheck Monthly Fee	9.24
Crossroads Awards (Confirmation Gift)	28.00
Office Net; copier paper & supplies	103.00
Walmart; Ink Cartridges	118.91
CCLI Copyright Renewal Size A	129.00
City of Stromsburg; Mosquito Spraying	141.84
NE Synod ELCA-Mission Share	1500.00
Zion Benedict August Share	1769.33

Utilities:

Church:	292.48
Parsonage:	190.53

Salaries:

Pastor	2232.12
Mileage	249.42
SECA	221.84
Supply Pastor Karen Tjarks	339.68
Portico Benefits	1046.82
Diana	445.41
LeeAnn	236.64
Bri	358.14
	<u>\$9403.98</u>

Balance as of August 31st, 2018

\$2031.66

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

**Mission Statement: Know God, Love God,
Share God's Love**



Guiding Principles:

1. **Jesus is Lord and Savior**
2. **All are welcome in this place.**
3. **Serving in love with generosity and hospitality**
4. **Provide an atmosphere for spiritual growth and reflection.**
5. **Teaching and sharing God's Word with joy**
6. **Mutual respect in relationships**

Return Service Requested

Stromsburg, NE 68666
950 Road 129th

**CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
NEBRASKA SYNOD, ELCA**

.....IN SACRED PLACES.....