



Opening The Moba Book Of Faith in Togo, Africa

A Legacy For Eternity

On October 18, 2008, while standing under a make shift canvas shade stretched among thin tree tops, in sweltering African temperatures, I had an extraordinary opportunity to witness the Moba New Testament Dedication in the small African village of Nano, Togo. The Moba language is spoken by approximately 50,000 people. They now have a New Testament written in the language of their hearts, the language they speak and fully understand.

A litany of 13 impressive speakers addressed the crowd of about 1,500. However, when former missionary to the Moba people, Rev. Walt DeMoss (recently retired Director of LBT's Program Ministries) rose to speak, I noticed something I had not seen before. All eyes turned to him...he had their full attention. I could not help but sense the outpouring of love and warmth directed towards their dear friend, former Pastor, and long time coordinator of this Moba New Testament translation. This warm reception was not superficial, it was genuine. No one else commanded it that day. It was apparent the DeMoss legacy is one of love and the knowledge of Jesus Christ, a true spiritual heritage, one which will have an impact on people's lives for generations to come.

After nearly six hours of festive celebration, the dedication ceremonies came to an end. I watched in amazement as my brothers and sisters in Christ lined up to obtain their "very own" Moba New Testament. Many, after taking only a few steps, stopped, immediately opened their New Testaments and began to read. As I walked among them, they seemed oblivious to my presence. Their focus was solely upon their "new Bible." Whenever our eyes did meet, the smiles on their faces and joy in their eyes transcended all language barriers. With confidence, I can say we are making a difference in people's lives for Christ.

In the days ahead my ongoing prayer will be; *O Father, who gave us the legacy of your son, Jesus, may my legacy also be a "spiritual one." Please give me, my children and my grandchildren, understanding as to why a father's or grandfather's legacy should not be one solely of "bricks and mortar." They are things of this world and will never last. But let our legacy be one that brings people to Faith in Jesus Christ...a legacy for eternity.*

Gary McCall
Board of Directors
Lutheran Bible Translators

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Baptism

Caylee Jean Seedorf was baptized Sunday, April 5. Sponsors are Catherine Witt and Nick Schindler. Parents are Paul and Amanda (Witt) Seedorf.

Affirmation of Faith

On Sunday, May 17 at the 10:45 service we will celebrate the Affirmation of Faith of these young people: *Jordan Anderson, Nicole Barvels, Rebecca Bellefeuille, Alec Bjerke, Ashley Bond, Jordan Bruhn, Jordan Cresap, Brady Erickson, Zach Gabbard, Ty Haverland, Andrew Hurt, Kelby Jensen, Mary Ann Kuebler, Tarah London, Brandon Lueders, Brooke Mickelson, Laine Miller, Emily Peterson, and Matthew Shipman.*

High School Seniors

Congratulations to these High School Seniors who will be honored at a reception in their honor between services Sunday, May 31: *Alexander Barney, Nathan Bellefeuille, David Gronseth, Brett Kupferschmid, Danielle Lehman, Blake Minge, James Sandford, Megan Shipman, Brandon Thompson, and Jessica Tufton.*

Outdoor Worship

We again enjoy 10:45 contemporary worship outdoors beginning Sunday, June 7 through Labor Day. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and join us.

Pictorial Directory

Sign up to have your photo taken for the new Directory through May 3. Please visit www.calvaryperham.com and click on Photo Directory Schedule to see available time slots; you may then contact Tina Reed at 342-3027 or Jeana Nelson at 346-6429 to sign you up for the time slot you prefer.

Easter Stories

I am out visiting quite a bit these days and enjoying it a lot. If I haven't been to your house yet, or you want to talk about something special with me, give me a call and we will set up a time to come to your house. One of the reasons I like to visit with you is to hear your stories. I feel I can serve much better as your pastor if I know more about you, about your home and life and work and family, and about your faith as well. I enjoy listening to people's stories and I strongly believe that our conversations can help us see "what God is up to" in our lives. Easter comes alive in our lives when God gives new life to us from all the little deaths that we experience. So, thanks for opening up your lives to me and most of all, for opening your lives and hearts to God's love in Christ.

Happy Easter!

Pastor Phil



Congregational Meeting May 3

At 9:45 AM, the Property Committee and the Council invite you to come and learn about their proposal for paving the Calvary parking lot across the street to the west of the church. We will present drawings and bids for the parking lot and you can ask questions, discuss and finally decide if that is a good idea for Calvary at this time.

We have about \$8600 set aside that could help us get started with the project, but a fundraising project would certainly be necessary to pay for the rest. We are still waiting for bids on the total project cost, but will have those ready for the Congregational Meeting on May 3.

Jubilee Tree Planting Project

We are receiving gifts and memorials for new trees, shrubs and perennials around the church and parking lot.

Check out the poster in the Narthex showing the artist view of the plantings, locations, cost and procedure to choose which you would like to support.

We will cross out on the poster the projects as they are subscribed. We suggest you may want to buy a tree or shrub as a memorial to someone who has died. When the project is complete there will be a commemoration board in the west entry listing those being honored by these plantings.

Multimedia Ministry—A Thank You

Thanks to all the people who helped with the new technology console in the balcony. Erv Tolkinen and Jim Nordbeck did the carpentry, Duane Lysne did the finishing, Darrell and Mark Huber did the electrical wiring, and Kevin Kupferschmid, Mitch Groethe and Phil Holtan ran wires for the sound and video systems. Joe Blesi set up a computer for the video projection.

Thanks also to Mark Goers who assisted with the construction and is helping run sound every Sunday. You did an awesome job and we thank you.

Thanks also to Rand Stolee who is doing an amazing job with the video projection. Russ Bunker and Sue Delaney hand him information and he puts it all together beautifully.

Post Flood Response

The Calvary Men's Group has decided that their efforts to help clean up after the flooding may not be as glamorous as flood prevention, but certainly as important. For each of the coming Saturdays, the men's group invites all who are willing to join them at the church at 8:00 A.M. to travel to the Fargo/Moorhead area. You are asked to come prepared and dressed for work; don't forget the gloves. The work will be assigned and coordinated by the staff of Lutheran Domestic Disaster Response. In this way the efforts of Calvary's members will be included with as part of the response of the national ELCA.

Men's Ministry News

The Fishermen are a group of men from Calvary committed to growing the church through ministry to and through men through a variety of fellowship activities, social events, educational opportunities and service projects.

Men's Breakfast. The 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 7AM Men's Breakfast meets for great food and a study of the upcoming Sunday's Scripture lessons.

Questions about Men's Ministry? Please contact Craig Swanson at 347-7926 or swanson@arvig.net or Rand Stolee at 346-3440 or drat@eot.com.

Women's Ministry Happenings

Nursing Home Devotions

Have you ever wondered what the Devotions were all about? Back in the early 1970's some Calvary women decided to go to the Nursing Home to lead some devotions and sing some hymns. It began in the basement of the St. James Home, which was the old Hospital. We started out with a few hymns and followed by devotions or readings. This continued for about a half hour. The volunteers from church assist the residents to find the pages in their song-books. The piano players are also volunteers from church. It has been difficult at times to find someone to play. The Nursing Home didn't have many books so the women themselves bought some new books with large print to make it easier to participate. When the new Nursing Home was built, we moved along with them. We did the same service at both North and South wings because it was too difficult to bring the residents from one place to another. This arrangement continued for many years. As time went on, there were more changes. With the new household concept we now can do devotions in the new Chapel for all residents at the same time.

Through the years it has always been difficult to get enough women to help. Recently we have lost several people who go south for the winter, which left a need for more volunteers. Because of the lack of help, we have cut a 12-month schedule down to nine months, April through December, although we still would like to be able to go year round. This is an open invitation to all. Please come join us the first Thursday of the month at 10:30 a.m. You will enjoy yourself and be rewarded by the response of the residents. We volunteers then share lunch together afterwards.

Thanks! Net Kupferschmid

Thanks for taking Stock in our Youth!

Our Youth Stock fundraiser was a great success. Students sold over 400 shares, raising over \$6,000 for Calvary's youth program. The youth appreciate your support that makes many ministry opportunities available such as the National Gathering in New Orleans this July. Join us at the Stockholders Banquet Sunday, August 16; youth will have lots of memories and pictures to share from our time in New Orleans.

Looking For A Few Good Men!

Want to be on the "Grill Team" for Calvary's 50th Year Celebration? Contact Jill Shipman at 346-5395 or ships@arvig.net.

Upcoming Events

+ATV Event on May 2
+Ottetail Canoe Trip on June 7
+Fargo Air Museum Trip in June



Bible Studies

Java Jams Mondays
8:30 a.m. in the Mary Room.

Charity Circle Wednesday,
May 6 at 9:30 a.m. in the Matthias Room.

Faith Circle Wednesday, May 6 at 1:30 p.m. in the Matthias Room.

Peace Circle Wednesday, May 13 at 9:30 a.m. in the Matthias Room.

Becoming A Woman Of Faith
Thursdays at 10 a.m. in the Mary Room. Bring your children!

2009 Synod Convention "Called From The Waters" Friday, June 12 and Saturday, June 13 at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Moorhead. We have been asked to host this event next year and encourage as many Calvary women as possible to attend in 2009 so we may better serve as hosts next year. Registration forms and information are at the church office. Book lodging as soon as possible; there is a soccer tourney in town that weekend. Registration deadline is June 1, 2009.

If the students did not reach you and you would still like to become a stockholder, please contact Youth Director Rob McNair at 346-4780.

Stocks are \$15 a share; make checks payable to Calvary with Youth Stock in the memo.



Youth & Family

Youth serve as Worship Helpers May 3. Check the date and worship time on the schedule or contact Rob with questions.

Salvation Army Service Project Saturday, May 2. We leave Calvary at 9 a.m. Contact Rob to participate.

Scholarships. The women of the ELCA grant scholarships to graduating high school seniors with a "C" average or better who plan to attend an ELCA college. Applications are on the youth board. Application deadline is May 1.

Pick Up Reminder. If you haven't done so please pick up your Butter Braids from the freezer in the kitchen. Geranium Pickup will be at Calvary Sunday, May 3.

Youth Concert. Sunday, May 3, Northwestern Minnesota Synod-Conference 9 Youth Concert at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Wadena at 6:30 p.m. There will be an opening band and then Captive Free Central Plains will play. They are a group that travels throughout the United States sharing the good news of Jesus Christ through relational ministry, testimonies, and music.

Lutheran College Fair. Lutheran colleges from the United States and Canada will host a college fair Monday, May 4 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Moorhead at 6:30 p.m. There is no charge and no need to pre-register. Students who attend our events will receive four application fee waivers for use at our Lutheran colleges.

Confirmation will be held Sunday, May 17 at the 10:45 a.m. service. There will be a Confirmation Reception Wednesday, May 13 with photos at 6 p.m. and reception at 6:30 p.m.

Graduation Reception. There will be a reception honoring our high school seniors Sunday, May 31 between services in the fellowship hall.

Summer Camp forms for Grade 2-12 at Luther Crest in Alexandria and Camp Joy in Dent are on the youth board in the fellowship hall. To offset the cost of camp, the women of Calvary give \$35 camper-ships and the church gives 25% of the total bill.

Bugs & Ticks—K-6 Pumpkin Planting!
Watch for dates coming in May. Everyone welcome and appreciated!



STUDY OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULTS

Walking With Jesus Down The Green Path Of Stewardship offers a time to study, discuss and seek God's guidance about becoming better stewards of His creation. This six-week study facilitated by Craig Johnson meets through May 17.

Monday Noon Bible Study in the Matthias Room. Bring a bag lunch (or not) and join Pastor Phil and a great group for our Bible Study on Ephesians through May 18.

CALVARY KIDS GROWING IN FAITH

The last day of Sunday School is May 3, and teacher appreciation will be at both services. Please join us in honoring the people who have faithfully served in this position during the 2008-2009 school year: **Pre-School:** Linda Barvels, Trica Johnson, Amanda Seedorf; **Kindergarten:** Jill Pirota, Maggan Pirota, Julie Roberts; **1st Grade:** Lynn Lueders; **2nd Grade:** Dawn Edvall, Teri Cresap; **3rd Grade:** Carrie Roble; **4th Grade:** Jennifer Ditterich; **5th Grade:** Whitney Delaney, Elena Arvig; **6th Grade:** Karlie Hoekstra, Melody Scott. Please thank them for their service this year, in faithfully planting the seeds of Christ in Calvary's kids. Now it is up to us to "tend" to them, pull out the weeds, make sure they get plenty of sun, water and help them grow!

If you are interested in teaching Sunday School next year, please contact Tracy Bieger. This is a great opportunity to make a difference in a child's life, and you do **not** have to be a "professional" to do it!

VBS can't happen without YOU! Join us at "Son Rock Kids Camp." Registration will begin the first part of May. Vacation Bible School needs volunteers to serve in many capacities: Teachers and aides, menu planning, meal prep and serving, arts and crafts, games and activities, decorating, music, registration, etc. VBS dates this year are Sunday, June 7-Wednesday, June 10, 5:30-8:00 p.m. Contact Tracy Bieger at 346-4780 or tracy-bieger@calvaryperham.com.

Loving your spouse like God loves you

As part of the Fireproof couples Bible study this last week, our group discussed some concepts that I thought I would share as I found them particularly meaningful.

First, the study material gave an illustration of the symbolic nature of a wedding ring and made three important points: (1) A wedding ring is round which means it has no end; (2) A wedding ring is round which also means it is equally strong at all points; and (3) A wedding ring is costly which means all marriages start with a sacrifice and are sustained by sacrifices. I found that last point particularly powerful. I cannot recall anyone telling me or ever being aware that marriage would require personal sacrifices on my part. If someone did, I wasn't paying attention or simply disregarded what they said. I do not think many people are contemplating all that they will lose on their wedding day. I remember being filled with thoughts of all I was going to gain: love, happiness, a new home, more family members, lots of presents, and (let's be honest) sex! I am reminded of Jesus' words to his disciples about the cost of discipleship: "For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it" (Matthew 16:25). I think those words are not only true in regard to our relationship with God, but also true in our relationships with our spouses. I think for the better part of my marriage I have tried to save or preserve my individual life for fear of losing my freedom and independence. Only recently have I become aware that I must sacrifice and lose my life to Hayley in order for us to "become one flesh" (Genesis 2:24).

An interesting concept that the author presented was the Seasons of a Marriage: Romance, Reality, Resentment, and Rebuilding. Studies indicate that the Romance stage lasts about two and a half years, at which time feelings of infatuation begin to wear off and reality sets in. In the Reality stage the author writes, "He sees her without make-up on and she hears his bodily noises." Humor aside, the couple has to come to terms with their desires to change one another. During the Resentment phase "the one who was once the object of our affection now becomes the target of our frustration." This is the make-or-break point in a marriage. Either the couple will become stuck in this stage of resentment and hostility (because of their unsuccessful attempts to change one another) or they will move into the Rebuilding phase where they learn to love their spouse even when their spouse does not deserve to be loved. To put that another way, Rebuilding is about loving your spouse like God loves you, unconditionally and undeservingly! We must learn that love is an action, not a feeling. God doesn't love us because we deserve it or earn it. He loves us because he made the decision to love us no matter what! The covenant God established at our baptism (when He claimed us as his own) mirrors the covenant (or vows) established when we were married. On our wedding day we told our spouse, "I take you, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better or for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish; from this day forward." We claimed our spouse as our own just as God claimed us when we were baptized. In fact, the more I read those traditional wedding vows, the more I see how God said the same thing at our baptism. And we make these vows because we were made in God's image and likeness (Genesis 1:26) and we are to "love one another just as I [Jesus] have loved you" (John 13:34).

One final point I will share is the insight that men and women have very different communication styles and expectations. Research shows that women, on average, will speak 25,000 words in any given day, whereas men will speak only about 10,000. And by the time the typical man arrives home from work, those 10,000 words have been spent and he is ready to come home and have some alone time (reading the paper, watching the ball game, going fishing, etc.). However, for the typical woman, this is the time where she wants to engage and get emotionally close to her husband. So this time is most often a source of conflict where the men feel pestered, the women feel isolated, and everyone feels frustrated! It's no Lake Wobegon that's for sure.

Being a part of a couples Bible study can be an intimidating endeavor, especially when you do not know what to expect or who will be there. However, I'd encourage you to take a chance and get involved because the rewards are many. At the minimum you breathe a sigh of relief when you discover that you are not alone in some of the difficult situations couples can face. And as you can see the material provides great, insightful information that helps to bring our struggles into perspective. The Fireproof study is currently meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Sundays through May 10 with a potluck meal and babysitters to watch the kids, so all are welcome and encouraged to attend.

God Bless,

Rob McNair





Stephen Ministry and the Mission of Calvary

Calvary's Mission Statement: *Calvary Lutheran Church exists to be an example of Christ's love through service to all people, helping everyone to learn and experience God's love in the struggles and triumphs of daily life.*

Mission statements are important to church congregations. They can be a rallying point for members and a touchstone to remind us and others what we are about. Mission statements describe the result we intend to accomplish; that is, how do we want people's lives to be changed after having contact with Calvary. Mission statements also include activity words, that is, what are we going to do and how are we going to behave in order to achieve our intended result. Calvary's mission statement identifies our intended result as, "helping everyone learn about and experience God's love." The activities we engage in to achieve that result is, "being an example of Christ's love while serving all people."

Those of us in the Stephen Ministry program at Calvary, take this mission seriously. We have a responsibility to contribute to Calvary's movement to accomplish its mission. We endeavor to be examples of Christ's love by listening, caring and encouraging as we serve people who are hurting. We assist their learning about Christ's love through devotions and prayer. As we meet each month we seek God's help and direction. We also seek each others help to continue in the right direction.

Calvary Lutheran Church is a Stephen Series Caring Congregation, "Christ Caring for people through people."

Justice Journeys Work For Habitat



A Minnesota Paradise-and a new home for a hard working family. The Justice Journeys Mission Team is sponsoring a Habitat For Humanity trip to Grand Rapids June 21-25. There are still more openings and we would love to have you join us! Cost will be for housing and some meals. Scholarships to help defray expenses may be applied for.

Interested? Please contact Carla at 346-6486 or 218-841-1175. More information about Itasca Habitat can be found at their web site: www.itascahabitat.org

Parish Nurse Urgently Needed at Calvary

According to Judy Peterson and Mary Ringsven, Parish Nursing is one of the most rewarding nursing specialties they have experienced. Parish Nurse Training at Concordia was renewing and uplifting. The opportunity to combine nursing practice and faith practice is wonderful. Becoming a parish nurse is all about a Call to Share Jesus and Help Others. Judy has moved to Idaho and Mary Ringsven is considering not renewing her RN license. Our Parish Health Ministry needs another nurse to receive the Call to serve in this rewarding nursing specialty.

The course requires that you are an RN currently licensed in MN.

Stephen Ministry News

Currently there are 15 Stephen Ministers serving care receivers; mostly on a weekly basis.

We do have three Stephen ministers who are available to serve when needed.

There are two referrals for Stephen Ministers that are in the evaluation process.

On April 13, 2009 we had our regular monthly meeting for small group supervision.

We also planned our monthly meetings for the remainder of 2009. The December meeting will be our annual Christmas potluck and gift exchange and the August meeting will be a cook out picnic at Paul Miller Park.

The other meetings will focus on in-service training modules that will assist us in refining our ministry skills.

A MOVING PROJECT

The need from a single mother with a daughter was heard. They needed to move from their house to an apartment to establish a new home and had no means of accomplishing the move. Craig Swanson put out the request for help not knowing how many may show up at moving time.

Much to his surprise, 15 men and women reported and accomplished the move in less than 2 hours. That is just the way that Calvary's members respond to the needs of others.

Can you imagine the impact this had on the lives of that mother and daughter?

NEED WORK DONE?

If you have work around home you need done, Ron Anderson will arrange for a Rewind resident to help you. They would appreciate the work and the pay and you will love to "get it done." Call Ron at 346-5352.

TWIGS

During the month of March, TWIGS was able to: fill a propane tank, pay for pre-school for 2 children, send 2 young girls to dance classes, pay a utility bill, continue piano lessons, send 2 children for swimming lessons, and provide money for medical prescriptions! Thank you for your continued support!!

RELAY FOR LIFE

The East Otter Tail Relay For Life celebrates its 15th year this July 10. We are proud to announce that Calvary is one of the four teams that has participated every year. We presently are organizing this year's team and would love to have you be part of it. We would ask you, as a team member to raise \$100 by selling luminaria and getting donations. We plan to do some team fundraisers including a pancake breakfast, and sales of our special 15th year celebration cookbook. Pre-orders for this \$15 - 450 recipe cookbook can be reserved with any Relay team member. For more information or to be our Calvary team sponsor, contact Ron and Dee Anderson at 346-5352.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund receipts for April to date through the 19th were \$33,257 or 91% of the budgeted revenues of \$36,454. There is one more Sunday remaining in the month.

Building Fund receipts for April to date through the 19th were \$5,206 or 89% of the amount needed to make the mortgage payment of \$5,832.

Actual results for March for the General Fund, was a net unfavorable variance of \$4,996. Total receipts for the month were \$32,214 and expenses were \$37,209. The Building Fund receipts for the month were \$5,906, which was ahead of budget by \$74.

Year to Date through March, the General Fund has a net unfavorable variance of \$12,306 and the Building Fund is unfavorable by \$3,073. Last year, Easter was in March versus April this year. Our results should be more comparable to last year after we get April finalized.

Thank you for your continued support of Calvary's general and building funds.

SIMPLY GIVING®

Simply Giving is an automated giving program designed to help you conveniently make your offering through a pre-authorized withdrawal from your bank account or credit card. For more information or to sign up, contact Shirley in the church office and she will be happy to help you.

Calvary's Senior Choir Sunday is May 10!



The Senior Choir will finish its 2008-2009 choir season on Sunday May 10, with a special concert at both Sunday services. You will hear a group of selections that were presented in worship during this choir season, and two selections you have not yet heard:

Make My Life an Alleluia is a warm and loving song of praise by Ruth Elaine Schram. Ruth reminds us, that whether we are standing on the mountain top or the bottom of a valley of despair, we should always give our love to our Lord who has given so much to us. The seasons will keep changing, our planet will keep spinning, and as we go through life we have the constant of God's love always surrounding us.

Psalms 150 is a work with music by Mark Hayes, and the text from Psalm 150. The Center for Church Music at Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, TN commissioned Mark to write this piece in the 1970's. It is very rhythmic and energetic, and a big piece. We would not normally use it in worship because of its length.

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms is a wonderful bouncy and praise filled Joel Raney arrangement of this great old gospel hymn.

Nothin' Gonna Stumble My Feet is a very energetic creation of John Parker and Greg Gilpin, published in 2008. It is very reminiscent of an African-American spiritual. The choir was going to sing this the week that our practice got snowed out by the big blizzard. So we have been polishing it and will sing it for you instead Choir Sunday.

Our Hope for Years to Come is our second composition this year by Ruth Elaine Schram. It focuses on the heritage of our Christian faith. Ruth has written a beautiful new melody with lyrics based on the text from the well loved hymn, *O God Our Help in Ages Past*.

We hope you come and join us and enjoy as the choir lifts praises through song. Thanks to everyone who was a part of Senior Choir this year, and for our very capable accompanist, Stacie Muench. You are a blessing to the Lord and to Calvary!

As we head toward Pentecost, may this month find you filled with the Spirit, and a burning desire to go out and share it with your neighbor!

In His Peace,

Russ Bunker

The Music Man

Calvary Pops Series Event and Special Music

CALVARY POPS MUSIC SERIES 2009 OPENER RUSSIAN VOCAL ENSEMBLE LYRA-MAY 8 AT 7 PM

All the way from Russia, an a cappella vocal ensemble called Lyra will be kicking off our Calvary Pops Summer Concert series. Lyra came to Calvary as part of their Spring US concert tour in 2007. You can read more about them at our Calvary website at www.calvaryperham.com/Pops, but here is an excerpt:

Russian ensemble Lyra is a community of professional musicians. Most members are students or postgraduates of Saint-Petersburg Conservatoire, working in different choirs of Saint Petersburg. Some are also soloists at musical theatres. Lyra includes about 25 people. However, due to different difficulties connected with the arrangement of concerts for such a numerous group, they usually perform in small groups of soloists consisting of 5-6 people. Since 1994 they have performed not only in Russia, but also Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Holland, Great Britain, Ireland, Sweden and the U.S. Apart from concert activity, they also take part in worship services at churches of different Christian confessions, viewing this not only as interesting multicultural event but also as a wonderful and important ecumenical experience.

As Lyra began their concert here in Calvary in 2007, I was amazed. Here, standing in our church was a small group of about 6 singers. OK...so what? Well, you know what? Those 6 voices filled the space of Calvary Lutheran's sanctuary, and they used no microphones. You will be amazed at what this small group does, and they do a nice variety of Russian church music, and fun folk music as well. You can tell by watching their faces how much fun they have making music, and that makes it fun for people watching and listening. Please try and be here for this wonderful inspiring group. It is going to be so unique and so special! There is no admission charge, but we will take a freewill offering.

Also... Would you like the experience of meeting someone from another culture? We're looking for folks to house and feed some of the folks from Lyra Friday evening, May 8 and Saturday morning, May 9. Contact Russ Bunker if you can help.

OTHER SPECIAL MUSIC IN MAY

May 3—Youth Choir
Final Sunday to sing

May 17—Carol Choir
Final Sunday to sing

Recital presented by my piano students. My private students will be playing in their annual spring piano recital at Calvary, on May 18 starting at 7 PM.

Cottages Hosts & Leaders Meeting

On Tuesday, May 19 at 5 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, the Calvary Cottages Committee will host the leaders, contact persons and hosts of all the cottages. We want to get feedback on your activities, learn what support you need and look at the future of the cottage ministry. The meeting is planned for about an hour. It is important all cottages be represented.

If you are not able to attend please ask someone in your cottage to attend in your place. Anyone interested in this ministry is welcome. Circle the date on your calendar today!

Book Signing to be held on May 4

Merrie Sue Holtan to speak and sign books for hockey biography, "Power and Stride," at Perham Library.

A hockey mom and so much more. Merrie Sue Holtan, author of newly released "Power and Stride: the Nancy Burggraf Story" from Pogo Press, Minneapolis, will read from the biography, describe the creative process, show video clips and sign books on May 4 at the Perham Public Library.

Book signing will take place from 5-7 p.m., and Holtan will speak from 7-8 p.m. with a brief signing period following.

Nancy Burggraf, Roseau, Minnesota, was called a hockey guru by USA today. Over five decades she touched the lives of more than 40,000 hockey players, from preschoolers to professional players, with her innovative power skating techniques.

Burggraf worked closely with the Roseau Rams, the UND Sioux and coach Dean Blais. She was the first woman nominated to the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame, and she died from ALS in 1999.

Holtan teaches communication studies at Minnesota State University Moorhead. She learned of Burggraf's story in one of her speech classes.

The book also includes a one-hour film documentary DVD produced by Holtan and her students.

Committee & Council Meeting Time Change

Committees will meet the second Tuesday each month at 5:30 p.m.
The Council will meet the second Tuesday each month at 6:30 p.m.

Fishermen host Family Off Roding Trip

The Fishermen invite men and their families—wives, sisters, sons and daughters—to go Off Roding by ATV Saturday, May 2. We will meet at Calvary at 7:30 a.m. and drive north to the Tamarack refuge. We'll have breakfast at Uncle Joe's cabin at 8:30. From there you will be led by two seasoned guides on a fun tour of the woods and trails.

We'll stop on the way to roast some dogs for lunch and also visit a burger stand on the way. We'll cover about 30-50 miles before ending the trip at the Ice Cracking Lodge for supper.

Dress for the weather and expect to get dirty. This is a great opportunity to invite a friend! Please call Craig Swanson at 347-7926 if you'd like to attend.

For more information about *The Fishermen and Calvary's Men's Ministry*, see page 3 of this issue of the *Calvary Connection*. You can also find more information by visiting the *Calvary web site at www.calvaryperham.com*, click on the *Groups tab*, then on the *Men tab*.



THANK YOU



A reception was held Sunday, April 26 at Calvary to say Thank You to Sally (and Dennis) Awes for great leadership and hard work with the Altar Guild these past years.

Carol and I feel so thankful for the help and support of Calvary. We are grateful to all for your prayers and concerns during medically stressful times. We have been helped by Pastor Phil and the staff, the Fix-it Ministry, the Prayer Shawl Ministry, the Parish Nurse Ministry and others. We feel very privileged to be members of Calvary. This "Thank You" comes from both of us. My medical "plumbing" problems are perhaps more stressful for Carol than for me. All I have to do is follow a rather limiting regimen – Carol has to tolerate and help with that, plus do everything else. Since my discharge from Mayo last September, I have been back five times for check-ups, maintenance and an outpatient surgery. A July surgery may determine how others follow. My story and journal updates can be found on 'caringbridge.org'. Enter 'odellnelson' as the name to search. A continuing "Thank You" to all,

Odell Nelson

To all our Calvary friends who have prayed for our daughter-in-law, Terri, for the past two and a half years, we thank you. To all who kept our son and grandchildren and our family in your prayers, we thank you. To all who asked about Terri when we talked, we thank you. To all who called, emailed and/or sent cards and memorials when she passed away, we thank you. To all who came to Brainerd for her funeral, we thank you. Your support has been nothing short of phenomenal and we love you and give thanks for you.

Darrel & Phoebe Tomlinson

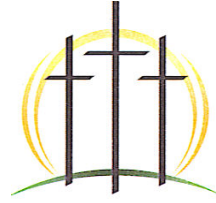
Thank you for all of your prayers and kindness during Carl's illness and death. The support of the Calvary Lutheran family has been greatly appreciated by me and my family.

Irene Seedorf

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Calvary Lutheran Church exists to be an example of Christ's love through service to all people, helping everyone to learn and experience God's love in the struggle and triumphs of daily life.

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Mother's Love

Her love is like
an island in life's ocean,
vast and wide
A peaceful, quiet shelter
From the wind, the rain, the tide.
'Tis bound on the north by Hope,
By Patience on the West,
By tender Counsel on the South
And on the East by Rest.
Above it like a beacon light
Shine Faith, and Truth, and Prayer;
And thro' the changing scenes of life
I find a haven there.

Author Unknown