

CALVARY LUTHERAN CALENDAR/NEWSLETTER

October 2025

Sunday Worship-In Person and on Facebook

October 5	Worship/Communion	9:00AM
October 12	Worship	9:00AM
October 19	Worship/Communion	9:00AM
October 26	Worship	9:00AM

Readers-

October 5- Sandra Kempfer
October 12- Jody Marburger
October 19- William Giddings
October 26- Barb Marburger

Altar Guild for October-
Mike and Linda Eckman
Fellowship for October-
Mike and Linda Eckman

Church Council Meeting

October 13th 6:30 PM

Food Pantry

October 11th 9:00-10:30 AM
October 23rd 5:30-6:30 PM

Carrington Wells, Synodically Authorized Minister
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Hey Calvary Crew!

Let me start with a huge WOW! Our Grandparents Day service had an attendance of just over 120 people. I know that church success is not based on numbers, but did anyone else look around and feel a deep sense of joy and security seeing our pews full again? It took me right back to my childhood. Even more important than attendance was seeing generations sitting together, celebrating the faith we have grown in, in the very church that raised us. A special thank you to Craig Myers and Brooke Byam—the music was absolutely fantastic! I can never hear “Grandpa, tell me ‘bout the good old days” without getting a little emotional. Following worship, we gathered in Pastor Bob Memorial Hall, where the nostalgia of “back in my day” filled the air along with laughter, fellowship, and friendship. What a gift that morning was!

Carrying on the good news train: our **Sunday School** attendance is on the rise—so much so that we are back to using two classrooms again! The chair of our Education Committee, Angie Marburger, has been working hard to create new ways to help our children grow in their faith and knowledge of God’s love. This wouldn’t be possible without our faithful volunteer Sunday School teachers. If you feel a tug at your heart wondering if you could serve in this way, take it as a nudge from the Holy Spirit.

Confirmation continues Fridays at 3:15 pm for all 7th and 8th graders. Our time together is full of open conversations, respect for one another’s perspectives, and lots of questions. (Yes, I have questions too—thank goodness for Google!) This month we wrestled with “Who wrote the Bible?” and “Is the Bible true if it regularly contradicts itself?” Big questions led to big conversations. Each week we also reflect on our shortcomings and how we can live more faithfully. Honestly, my goals for improvement are often not much different than the teenagers’.

School Update: On September 4th I had my Module 1 interview for the TEEM Program at Wartburg Seminary. My paper, “Who is Jesus Christ to Me?” and my competency in Module 1 were reviewed by my supervisor Pastor Jennifer Henry, program overseer Pastor Edy Santos, my professor Rev. Dr. Jan Schnell, and my seminary mentor Pastor Janice Hawley. Despite an anxiety rash creeping up my neck, I was approved to move on to Module 2! I recently completed my first assignment with my September 21st sermon and look forward to continuing this journey at a steady pace.

Blessing Box and Coat Closet: Both are open and ready for donations. We have recently added shoes to the Coat Closet, so if you have coats, hats, gloves, scarves, snow pants, or shoes you no longer need, please consider donating them so our neighbors may be blessed through your generosity.

Halloween Bash: Mark your calendars! On November 1, 2025, Calvary Lutheran will host Sabula's Trick or Treat Bash from 3-6 pm. This event is one of our biggest opportunities to connect with the youth of our community and to show them that the church is a safe space filled with love and family. To make this possible, we need volunteers—bakers to provide treats, friendly faces at the counter, helpers for the game stations, and more! If you'd like to help, please reach out to me. And for those who live in town and want to hand out treats at home, we'll also need volunteers for setup on Friday and Saturday morning. (See? I am nice like that 😊 opportunities for all!)

Prayer for October

Gracious and loving God,
As the days grow shorter and the leaves turn to gold, we give thanks for Your faithfulness in every season. Bless the events ahead in our church family—Sunday School, Confirmation, the Blessing Box and Coat Closet, Food Pantry, Blood Drives and our upcoming Trick or Treat Bash. May each gathering be filled with joy, learning, and Your Spirit at work.

We lift up our youth, Lord. Give them courage to ask questions, strength to live boldly in their faith, and hearts that are open to Your guidance. Bless parents, grandparents, teachers, and mentors who walk alongside them, nurturing faith across generations.

We pray for our community of Sabula and beyond. Let us be hands and feet of Your love, reaching out to neighbors in need, sharing kindness and generosity, and showing that Your church is a safe place for all.

God of the nations, we also remember the world around us. Bring peace to places of conflict, comfort to those in grief, and hope to communities affected by disaster. Inspire leaders with wisdom and all people with hearts that seek unity and justice.

As we walk through this harvest season, remind us that even as the world changes, Your love remains constant. Help us to shine Your light in our homes, schools, and neighborhoods, reflecting Your mercy and grace in all we do.

In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior,

Amen.

Stay cozy, stay kind, and keep spreading God's love—let's make this October unforgettable!

Carrington Wells, SAM

CALVARY LUTHERAN MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

2nd Saturdays 9:00-10:30 AM 4th Thursdays 5:30-6:30 PM

Families are eligible to attend food pantry services twice each month

Calvary Lutheran Mobile Pantry Services serves the following towns in Iowa: Andover, Green Island, Hauntown, Miles, Preston, Sabula, Spragueville, and Teeds Grove

September 2025 Dates October 2025 Dates

Saturday, September 13th 9:00-10:30 AM Saturday, October 11th 9:00-10:30 AM
Thursday, September 25th 5:30-6:30 PM Thursday, October 23rd 5:30-6:30 PM

**Watch Calvary Lutheran Church Facebook page
for announcements and updates**

If anyone would like to help with Food Pantry Truck Deliveries at 2:00 PM on the Thursdays before the 2nd Saturday or on the 4th Thursdays, or with the distributions to our patrons, even if you can only help occasionally, please give your contact information to Cindy Myers at cinmyers27@gmail.com or (563)249-1937.

