

# CALVARY LUTHERAN CALENDAR/NEWSLETTER

January 2026

## Sunday Worship-In Person and on Facebook

January 4 <sup>th</sup>	Worship/Communion	9:00AM
January 11 <sup>th</sup>	Worship	9:00AM
January 18 <sup>th</sup>	Worship/Communion	9:00AM
January 25 <sup>th</sup>	Worship	9:00AM

Fellowship-  
Volunteers Needed

Readers-  
Volunteers Needed

Altar Guild-  
Volunteers Needed

Sign up sheet will be passed  
around soon. If interested,  
contact Craig.

## Food Pantry

January 10<sup>th</sup>, 9:00-10:30 AM  
January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 5:30-6:30 PM

## Church Council Meeting

January 12<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM

Carrington Wells, Synodically Authorized Minister  
-calvarysabula@gmail.com 563-219-5722



# CHURCH AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

## **Sunday School**

Resumes January 4<sup>th</sup> 10 AM

## **Confirmation**

Resumes January 9<sup>th</sup>

## **Church Events**

January 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting



## **Greetings, Calvary Family,**

I hope this note finds you resting in the glow of Christmas, carols still humming in your head, candles still flickering in your memory, and hearts a little fuller from time spent together. As we turn the calendar toward a new year, I'm grateful for the ways God continues to gather us, guide us, and remind us that we never walk this journey alone.

### **December Services: A Season of Worship and Joy**

December, especially the final week, was filled with services that truly served everyone.

We begin with a round of applause for young **Julien**, who played piano before our Christmas Eve service. The church was full, and he played beautifully, setting the tone for a meaningful evening of worship. If you weren't able to attend, the service is available online to watch anytime.

This year, we also offered a **Blue Christmas Service**. While attendance was small, those who gathered felt the depth of the message shared, reminding us that God is our light, even in our darkest days.

Our **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** filled the church with every generation sitting side by side. It was a beautiful sight. Behind every seamless service is a lot of behind-the-scenes work, so thank you to everyone who gave their time and energy to make the night meaningful for others. You are deeply appreciated.

We wrapped up the season with our **Christmas Carol Service**, with Craig on guitar. This lighthearted, joy-filled service always reminds us that joy is a gift meant to be shared, not just at Christmas, but all year long.

### **Noisy Offering Update**

Since we began our "Noisy Offering", we've collected during just four Sundays, and already those small gifts have added up in a big way. As of December 29, a total of **\$141.29** has been deposited into our Blessing Box account.

Every penny of that came from simple places, purse change, car cup holders, and pockets turned inside out. This is a perfect reminder that even the smallest gifts matter. Little acts of kindness, offered faithfully, truly add up to make a meaningful difference in our community.

Thank you for giving joyfully and noisily!

### **Calvary Website**

Did you know Calvary has a website? It's been newly updated and is full of helpful information, including upcoming events, recent services, food pantry details, and community resources.

Take a moment to check it out and stay connected at: [www.calvarysabula.com](http://www.calvarysabula.com)

### **Bad Weather Reminder**

We've entered that season when the weather likes to keep us on our toes. If church needs to be canceled or moved to an online-only service, updates will be shared on **Facebook** and announced on **WQAD** and **KWQC**. We know the disciples weathered all kinds of storms... but we are not them! If conditions are unsafe, we want everyone home, warm, and snug in their own space. Your safety matters just as much as your presence.

## **Schooling Update**

I will have my **Module 2 Evaluation** during the first week of January. Scheduling around the holidays and time off has made this one a little tricky, and I'd be grateful for your prayers, especially for my nerves. No matter how confident I feel going into these evaluations, that confidence has a funny way of disappearing the moment they begin. Your prayers and encouragement mean more than you know.

## **A Call for Visiting Volunteers**

One area where I'm asking for help this year is **visiting our shut-ins**. Those who can't regularly make it to church but remain such a vital part of our Calvary family.

From my years serving on council, I've always known how important these visits are. Now, being on the other side of the role, I see even more clearly how meaningful, and sometimes challenging, it can be to fit visits into limited paid hours. I want to be honest about that while also sharing my heart: visiting is truly one of my favorite parts of this calling. I love sitting at kitchen tables, hearing stories, laughing, listening, and learning from the wisdom of others.

At the same time, I'm a realist. Some months, finding enough time is a real struggle. My hope is to build a small team of caring volunteers who are willing to visit those who can't be here in person, so my visits can be an added blessing, not the only connection.

If you enjoy conversation, listening, and simply showing up, this might be a meaningful way for you to serve. You don't need special training just a kind heart and a willingness to be present.

If you feel called to help in this way, please reach out to me. I would love to talk with you and share more.

## **A Final Word as We Approach the New Year**

As New Year's resolutions begin to take shape, I invite you to pause and pray. Listen for where God may be guiding you to serve in the coming year, both at Calvary and out in our community. God uses each of us as His hands in the world, gifting us with unique strengths, passions, and callings.

So take a deep breath and ask yourself: *Where is God inviting me to show up this year?*

## **A Prayer for the Month of January**

Gracious God,

January feels quiet, and sometimes a little heavy. The decorations are put away, routines are starting back up, and we're not always sure what this new year will hold.

Meet us right where we are. In our hopes, our worries, our tired hearts, and our big questions. Remind us that you are already walking ahead of us, even when the path feels uncertain or unfinished.

Help us notice the small ways you invite us to love, serve, and care for one another each day. Give us courage to use the gifts you've given us, and grace for ourselves when we fall short.

As we begin this new year together, hold Calvary and our community in your care, and keep us rooted in your love, your mercy, and your peace.

Amen.

Sending all my Love,  
Carrington Wells, SAM

# CALVARY LUTHERAN MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

**2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays 9:00-10:30 AM 4<sup>th</sup> 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

## **January 2026 Dates**

Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup>. 9:00-10:30 AM

Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. 5:30- 6:30 PM

## **February 2026 Dates**

Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. 9:00-10:30 AM

Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. 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](mailto:cinmyers27@gmail.com) or (563)249-1937.

