

Calvary Lutheran Church ELCA
310 S. Superior St.
Antigo WI 54409
715/623-3102
Address Service Requested



January ~ 2021

Kindred Lutheran Parish – Currents

Calvary Lutheran – Antigo

St. John's Lutheran - Birnamwood

In case of emergency pastoral care: Vicar Jennifer Sosinski 715-219-5489 vicarjennifer@outlook.com

Calvary Lutheran Church
310 S. Superior St.
Antigo, WI 54409
Church Phone 715/623-3102
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Adm. Asst.: Lynda Eschmann Cell: 715-216-0342
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Custodian: Richard Tews: 715/623-3522 (CLC)

St. John's Lutheran Church
W17680 Church Road
Birnamwood, WI 54414
Church Phone 715-449-2278
Church Email: stjohnlutheranchurch54414@gmail.com

January 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 8:30 Worship at St. John's 10:30 Worship at Calvary No communion	4 (CLC) 9:00 -12 Quilting (SJL) 5:30 Providing SOUP SUPPER for Birnamwood Vol Fire Dept.	5 (CLC) 6:00 Council Meeting	6 (CLC) 5:30 – 6:30 Confirmation Class	7	8	9 (CLC) 10:00 Grief Support Fellowship Hall
10 8:30 Worship at SJL 10:30 Worship at CLC No communion	11 9:00 -12 Quilting CLC	12	13 (CLC) 5:30 – 6:30 Confirmation Class	14 (SJL) Vicar Jennifer office hours 2:00 – 6:00 6:30 Kindred Lutheran Parish Council Meeting at St. John's	15	16
17 8:30 Worship at SJL w/communion 10:30 Worship at CLC w/communion – Annual Meeting following service	18 9:00 -12 Quilting CLC	19 6:00 (CLC) Friendship Circle	20 (CLC) 5:30 – 6:30 Confirmation Class	21 (CLC) 6:00 P.M. Bible Journaling at Come and learn how this works. Lorra Metko, leader	22	23
24 8:30 Worship at SJL Annual Meeting following worship 10:30 Worship at CLC	25 CLC 9:00 -12 Quilting	26	27 (CLC) 5:30 – 6:30 Confirmation Class	28 (SJL) Vicar Jennifer office hours 2:00 – 6:00	29	30
31 8:30 Worship at SJL 10:30 Worship at CLC	COMMUNION: Due to the holidays with so many family gatherings and out of town visitors we will only hold communion on January 17. Normally communion is offered on the 1 st and 3 rd Sunday of the month.					

St. John's Worship is held at 8:30 a.m.

Calvary's Worship is held at 10:30 a.m.



2021 OFFERING ENVELOPS ARE NOW AVAILABLE.
 At Calvary they are located on the table in the Narthex – by the south entrance.
 At St. John's they are located in the back of the church.

CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETINGS

Calvary's Annual Meeting January 17, 2021 – following the worship service
 St. John's Annual Meeting January 24, 2021 – following the worship service



Message from Vicar Jennifer Sosinski

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17

God is SO faithful. As I look back on the first few weeks as Vicar of the Kindred Lutheran Parish I find my heart overflowing with thanks to God. 1 John 3:18 encourages us to not love in word or talk but in deed. I believe that God's love is shared best when it is seen. Love in action.

We were able to reach out in many ways to the Birnamwood and Antigo communities including delivering cookies to the Antigo Fire and Police department and Aspirus Clinic; which were well received. A soup supper for the volunteer Fire and Ambulance members in Birnamwood will be held January 4th. The churches were both beautifully decorated by members in celebration of Jesus' birth. Christmas Eve services were well attended and the Joyful Jubilee prior to Calvary's service was a blessing to all with talent from young and old alike and Keith Watson provided a beautiful solo of *O, Holy Night* during worship. St. John's was blessed with a young soloist and violinist who filled the hearts of all who attended with joy. The social media taping of the Calvary service has gotten hundreds of views and continues to offer comfort and hope to those who were not able to attend due to illness or the circumstances of the pandemic.

I was thankful beyond words for Judy and Robin's gifts of sewing robes for my use during service. Over and over again I see the generosity and kindness of members stepping forward to be a part of meeting needs whenever they arise. Thank you to each and every one who met a need or took time or talent to help in any way. This is an exciting new season at the Kindred Lutheran Parish! It is in the darkest of times that light shines brightest. The brilliant glow of Jesus' love illuminates the path God has created to bring us close to His heart. Each one of us a flame, joining God in the amazing things He is doing in Antigo, in Birnamwood and in the world that He loves so much! Thanks be to God!

-Vicar Jennifer



from Vicar Jennifer

I would like to thank both St. John's and Calvary for the monetary Christmas Gifts that each parish gave to me a Christmas time. Each was a blessing and received with a grateful heart.

Calvary January Birthdays

03 – Kathy Runyon
04 – Hannah LeVeque
06 – Loren Lucia
Daniel Stockhaus
10 – Barry Stockhaus
11 – Jodi Gass
12 – Sally Zwicky
14 – Karen Traut
16 – Shane Lund
17 – Todd Langseth
Earl Opheim
19 – Jason Hilger
21 – John LeVeque
Donald Dolezal
22 – Scott Bolson
Lynn Wheeler
27 – Judith Byrd
28 – Stacy Kautza
Ariane Zimmerman
29 – Betty Hansen-Clay
30 – Emberli Depies
Erik Nelson

St. John's January Birthdays

01 – Jon Fischer
06 – Eric Resch
09 – Brady Kluck
18 – Kimberly Schmidt
22 – Tori Schmidt

Happy Anniversary:
25 - Alan & Lucille
Nousen

A Message from Crossways Camping Ministries:

Even before Covid-10 forced us to social distance and stay at home, young people in the United States were experiencing skyrocketing rates of loneliness and disconnection. The pandemic has made this isolation worse. One study this year reported that 78 percent of Generation Z reports feeling lonely, a far higher number than older generations. Those who come to camp in 2021 are really going to need it. Not just for their faith development, not just for their Confirmation requirements, but to nourish their very souls. When you make a year-end gift to Crossways, you give this generation a place of belonging, where they will be accepted and loved as they are. You share the Gospel message of god's love, experienced in community and witnessed in Creation. Donate now at www.CrosswaysCamps.org/donate, or mail a check made out to Crossways Camping Ministries to 912 N. Oneida St., Appleton, WI 54911.



What Is Bible Journaling?

Bible journaling is a combination of two acts: studying the Bible and keeping a [record of things](#) you deal with every day. It is a type of [reflective journaling](#) where you use the Bible to guide you in understanding life and the things around you.

This type of journaling creates a way for you to approach the disciplines of the Bible in a fresh, new way. It allows you to learn and appreciate the teachings of the Lord and the scriptures in an organized and creative manner. It does not require exemplary artistic skills—it only requires devotion and faith. Starting a Bible journal is almost the same as starting a normal journal—dedication and commitment are vital in order to continue. If you are looking for an artistic and imaginative way to [express your spirituality](#), we recommend trying out this new trend.

At Calvary, we are fortunate to have someone that would like to lead a Bible Journaling Group. Lorra Metko will be holding a Bible Journaling Gathering on Thursday, January 21 at 6:00p.m. We will meet in Fellowship Hall – masks and social distancing will be in place.

January 21, 2021 6:00 p.m. at Calvary. Please join us!

A NEW YEAR FOCUSED ON JESUS!



During the month of December on behalf of Calvary Lutheran - cookies were delivered to the Antigo Fire Department, the Antigo Police Department and Antigo Aspirus Clinic. On January 4th St. John's will be preparing a soup supper and delivering it to the Birnamwood Volunteer Fire Department. We are grateful for all their dedication and hard work.

GRATITUDE by Michael Perry,
from the book *Roughneck Grace*.

Michael is a personal friend of a member of Calvary and has granted us permission to use this in our newsletter.

I cannot anticipate the state of our hearts as we meet in this moment, but I choose for my subject a word I owe more study whatever may transpire after I type it: *gratitude*.

Gratitude. Such a lovely word. Humble and warm. Humble, because it's not a word you use if you think you did everything yourself. Humble, because no matter how hard you did work at whatever it is you're grateful for, you know—and more importantly, acknowledge—there was some luck involved. Warm because gratitude is not compatible with a cold soul. Warm, because gratitude radiates like the gentle rays of a heart-sized sun. Gratitude goes softly out and does good works—which generate more gratitude. Gratitude is renewable energy.

Gratitude, because to offer anything less would be to ignore all privilege. The privilege of existence. The privilege of health. The privilege of privilege. And now we are back at humility—or ought to be.

Gratitude, because the world is awash with the sour surf of opposing sentiments.

Gratitude, for those who show us the same.

Gratitude, even in grumpiness. Which is to say I am not talking all hosannas, hugs, and puppies here. I am talking about perspective and preponderance and relativity and sideways glance into the cosmic mirror, where behind me I spy millions of souls who would give all they own for just one of my disappointing Tuesdays.

Gratitude as my moral duty.

Gratitude, because it's so easy. A note. A word. You don't even have to talk.

Gratitude can be soundless. You can speak it with your eyes. Share it with a smile. Weave it into your works.

Gratitude, because as this year—or this day, or this hour, or this moment—draws to a close I am reminded it was another year granted, not guaranteed, and therefore not taken for granted.

Gratitude, no matter the season.

Gratitude.

~ Mike

Show your Gratitude. Share your Gratitude.

Though it has been a year of challenges in so many ways it has also a year containing many blessings, we just need to step back and acknowledge them.

Thank you:

- . . . to our members for their continued support of Calvary Lutheran and St. John's Lutheran (Birnamwood)
- . . . for the new donation of Chairs and table and chair storage racks (CLC)
- . . . for those who prepare the sanctuary and the front of the church for the celebration of Christ's birth and throughout the church year and change of seasons in the church
- . . . to members of our Altar Guilds, Women's and Men's Groups, Quilters, and Bible Study Leaders
- . . . to Members of the Kindred Lutheran Parish Council and Council members from St. John's and Calvary for their devotion of time and service.
- . . . to those who make home visits and phone calls, mail cards, and keep in touch with members
- . . . to our song leaders, lectors, greeters, organists & pianists, and those that record the services
- . . . to those from both churches that work behind the scenes for the bulletins, newsletters, etc.
- . . . to those that shared their talents at the Joyful Jubilee and provided special music at both churches
- . . . for Vicar Jennifer, who brings a joyful heart and renewed spirit to our Kindred Lutheran Parish.
- . . . to all our church staff and those who work behind the scenes to make things happen and volunteers for so many things from snow plowing, grass cutting, cleaning the garage - to having the carpeting cleaned, the windows washed and doors painted.
- . . . to all our little Church Mice who work in silence and do so much . . . thank you whoever you are!
- . . . Every member of our Kindred Lutheran Parish is a blessing in so many ways.

THANK YOU
We offer our gratitude.



Called
Together

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Calvary Lutheran's Annual Meeting will be held on January 17, 2021, following the 10:30 Worship Service.

St. John Lutheran's Annual Meeting will be held on January 24, 2021, following the 8:30 Worship Service.

At both meetings safe COVID practices will be observed.



Nothing more needs to be said!