KINDRED LUTHERAN PARISH • OCTOBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

Greetings beloved,

This beautiful verse reveals God's heart for His people.

Life can be challenging and uncertain. Without thinking much about it, we can fall into the temptation to look to the future with an "Oh boy, what next?!?!" outlook, distracting our hearts from resting in God's ability to see us through all things. Zephaniah was God's appointed spokesperson during a time of political instability. He faced great challenges, sent to people in moral and spiritual decline. Yet he relied on God and obeyed with bravery rooted in God's faithfulness. Verse 3:17 assures us of God's unwavering mercy and kindness, offering us: God's constant saving presence, God rejoicing over us with singing & gladness, and God quieting us with great love.

God's goodness is not dependent on us. However, our repentance, humility, trust in God's goodness despite circumstances, and unity with others (as much as is possible on our end) are. We can hear God's love singing over us in the happy chirping of the birds outside, in the coo of a newborn baby, in the sound of children's playful laughter, and the whispering breeze on a cool autumn day. And we return the song of God's love when we sing it to those who cannot hear it, or who may have forgotten what it sounds like. We are called to sing when the noise of life's chaos makes it difficult for the hurting to understand, even when, like Zephaniah, we must summon our bravery to do so! **You are loved, you are loved, you are loved. God sings over you with great love!** Zephaniah 3:17.

In the joy of my call, Pastor Jen

Pastor Jennifer Sosinski • 715-219-5489 • vicarjennifer@outlook.com

Calvary Lutheran Church 310 S. Superior St. • Antigo, WI 54409 **Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m.** Church Phone: 715-623-3102 calvary.antigo@gmail.com www.calvarylutheranantigo.com	**St. John's Lutheran Church** W17680 Church Rd. Birnamwood, WI 54414 **Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.** Phone contact: Pastor Jen or Andy Resch stjohnlutheranchurch54414@gmail.com www.stjohnslutheranbirnamwood.com

Administrative Assistant: Mandy Johnson • Email: calvary.antigo@gmail.com • 715-623-3102
Office Hours: Monday–Thursday, 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. • Custodian: Richard Tews – 715-623-3522

CONFIRMANDS BEGIN THE YEAR IN SERVICE

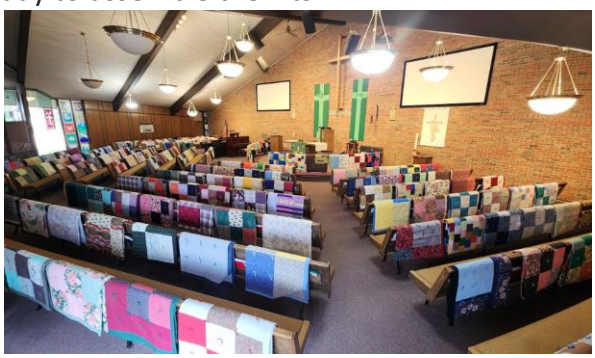
St. John's confirmands kicked off the year with TWO service projects for Birnamwood Care Center outreach—decorating cookies and creating October goodie bags for the residents. What a wonderful way to begin the Confirmation year by putting faith into action and serving others. Thanks be to God!

At Calvary, confirmation students and parents assembled 51 "Birthday In A Box" packages from the generous donations of Calvary friends and members. Thank you to everyone who donated cake mixes, frosting, candles, cans of soda, cake pans, and other supplies.

On behalf of Calvary Lutheran Church, 173 pounds of donated birthday joy were delivered to the Antigo Food Pantry, including all 51 Birthday Boxes—each with everything needed to make a birthday cake. Thanks be to God!

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS. — LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

The Social Concerns Committee thanks everyone for donations of items and money for this year's Lutheran World Relief kit drives. With your generosity, Calvary will be sending 157 beautiful quilts made by Calvary's quilters, 180 School Kits, 150 Personal Care Kits, and 14 Fabric Kits. These totals do not include quilts that have been donated locally to organizations such as AVAIL. A special thank-you also goes to Jo Lomprey and Bob for their help, and to Rhonda Bengtson, a former member of St. John's–Polar, for helping sew more than 100 School Kit bags. Thank you as well to everyone who stayed after worship on "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday to assemble the kits.



At St. John's Lutheran, members also put their hands to work and packed 70 Lutheran World Relief Kits. More details will be shared in the November newsletter, including the number of boxes shipped and the amount of unused funds that will be sent to the LWR Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund along with the $320.60 collected through September's Noisy Offering. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of Lutheran World Relief.

FOOD WITH FRIENDS — A WONDERFUL FALL START!

Food With Friends had a wonderful fall kickoff with 206 people served. From our special and beloved guests to our incredible volunteers of all ages, the love of God was abundant throughout the evening. It was a beautiful example of people simply "human-ing together" in the very best of ways—sharing food, conversation, laughter, service, and community. Thank you to everyone who cooked, served, welcomed guests, cleaned, donated, or helped in any way. Thanks be to God! The next Food With Friends Community Meal will be Wednesday, October 14, from 4:30–6:00 p.m. at CLC.

CALVARY AT MUSIC IN THE PARK

For many years, Calvary has enjoyed serving the community through the food booth at Music in the Park in Antigo, and this year was another wonderful evening of food, fellowship, and service! The booth featured Nueske's brats, famous Tew's Sour Krout along with an amazing assortment of homemade desserts lovingly prepared by the wonderful people of Calvary. The desserts were beautiful, the brats were popular, and we sold out of brats!

Thanks to everyone who baked, donated, prepared food, worked at the booth, helped with setup and cleanup, or stopped by to support Calvary. The food booth made a profit of $1503.43

SJL OUTREACH — FELLOWSHIP IN THE COMMUNITY

St. John's Outreach continues the first and third Thursdays of each month. On Thursday, October 1, Outreach begins at 9:30 a.m. at Cloverleaf, with Autumn Lanes following. On Thursday, October 15, Outreach begins at 9:30 a.m. at Cloverleaf, with Autumn Lanes following and the Mapleview Apartments luncheon afterward.

The monthly luncheon has resumed at Mapleview Apartments, where hamburgers and hot dogs were enjoyed by all. A generous donation was made by Peterson Family for the residents at Autumn Lanes to enjoy. This was the first service where everyone gathered around the "new" piano to sing and enjoy fellowship together.

ST. JOHN'S FALL CRAFT & SOUP SALE — OCTOBER 10

Mark your calendars for the St. John's Fall Craft & Soup Sale on Saturday, October 10, from 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Those who feel moved to contribute are invited to donate crafts, baked goods, or soup. To donate, please contact Shirley Thiex at 715-881-0230. Come support St. John's, enjoy some delicious homemade food, and see what our talented crafters and bakers have been creating!

OCTOBER IS MISSION MONTH AT ST. JOHN'S

Throughout October, St. John's will be collecting donations in the special blue-topped envelopes for Mission Month. St. John's will match the amount given. This year's Mission Month funds will support the Wittenberg and Mattoon food pantries. Thank you for helping our neighbors and supporting these important community ministries.

ST. JOHN'S CEMETERY RESTORATION

All of the headstones in St. John's Cemetery have now been straightened and restored. Take some time to walk through the cemetery and see the completed work. The results are quite impressive, especially considering the age of many of the stones. Thank you to everyone whose work helped preserve this important part of St. John's history for generations to come.

SUPPORT ST. JOHN'S WITH SCRIP & RAISERIGHT

Remember that you can support St. John's simply by purchasing the things you already need through Scrip gift cards and/or the RaiseRight App. Physical gift cards generally have a two-week turnaround time from submission, while digital gift cards are available electronically. This is an easy way to support your church without spending anything extra. With Christmas shopping just around the corner, keep Scrip and RaiseRight in mind!

SJL WOMEN'S GROUP & COUNCIL

The SJL Women's Group will meet Thursday, October 8, at 2:00 p.m. The next St. John's Council Meeting will be held Monday, October 19, at 6:00 p.m.

OCTOBER BINGO PRIZE COLLECTION FOR HOMME HOME

Throughout October, the Social Concerns Committee will be collecting BINGO prizes for Homme Home of Wittenberg nursing home. The collection box can be found in the narthex. Small prize suggestions include lotions, puzzle books, socks, individual snack packages, and playing cards. Thank you for helping provide a little extra fun and enjoyment for the residents!

OCTOBER NOISY OFFERING — AVAIL

Calvary's Noisy Offering on Sunday, October 18, has been designated to support AVAIL. Thank you for continuing to generously support organizations serving our community.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY & WELCA

Calvary's Friendship Circle Bible Study will meet Tuesday, October 20, at 2:30 p.m. The group is currently using Bless These Lips — 40 Days of Spiritual Renewal by Sharla Fritz. Each month's study is based on one section of the book, and books are shared, so all women are welcome to join whenever they are able.

A brief WELCA meeting will follow the Bible Study for those who would like to stay. Come for Bible Study, stay for the meeting if you are interested, and enjoy faith, conversation, fellowship, and opportunities to serve.

LOOKING AHEAD — CALVARY HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Calvary's Holiday Bazaar will be held Saturday, November 14, from 10:00 a.m.–1:30 p.m. We will be looking for bucket raffle items, craft items, bakery items, cakes for the cake walk, and volunteers to help. Please note that there will not be a Secret Santa Raffle this year. We have received some wonderful donated main raffle prizes and the tickets have been printed. If you can help by selling tickets in advance, please see Julie Kubiaczyk on Sundays after church or call her at 715-216-1906. Tickets are $1.00 each or 6 for $5.00. Watch future bulletins, Facebook, and the November newsletter for additional details.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 • SJL Outreach 9:30 – Cloverleaf; Autumn Lanes follows • SJL Mission Month • Bingo Collection	**2**	**3** • LWR delivery to Wausau 8:00–12:00
4 • Communion • CLC Worship 8:30 • SJL Worship 10:30 • SJL Baptism – Elizabeth Fandrey	**5** • CLC Quilting 9:00 • Reflective Prayer 12:00–12:30 • AVAIL Board Meeting 5	**6** • Evergreen Terrace Worship 10:30 • Eastview Music 2:00–3:00	**7**	**8** • SJL Women's Group 2:00	**9**	**10** • SJL Fall Craft & Soup Sale 9:00–12:00
11 • WOV Service • CLC Worship 8:30 w/Sunday School • SJL Worship 10:30	**12** • CLC Quilting 9:00 • Reflective Prayer 12:00–12:30	**13** • Evergreen Terrace Worship 10:30	**14** • Food With Friends 4:30–6:00 (CLC)	**15** • SJL Outreach 9:30 – Cloverleaf; Autumn Lanes; Mapleview luncheon	**16**	**17**
18 • Communion • CLC Worship 8:30 • SJL Worship 10:30 • CLC Noisy Offering – AVAIL	**19** • CLC Quilting 9:00 • Reflective Prayer 12:00–12:30 • SJL Council 6:00	**20** • Evergreen Terrace Worship 10:30 • Friendship Circle 2:30 • WELCA follows • CLC Council 4:30	**21** • Confirmation – CLC 3:30; SJL 5:30	**22** • Kindred Parish Council 6:00 (CLC)	**23**	**24**
25 • Reformation Sunday • Communion • CLC Worship 8:30 w/Sunday School • SJL Worship 10:30 • Bazaar Mtg follows CLC worship	**26** • CLC Quilting 9:00 • Reflective Prayer 12:00–12:30	**27** • Evergreen Terrace Worship 10:30	**28**	**29**	**30**	**31**

KINDRED LUTHERAN PARISH PRAYER CONCERNS

CLC: Laura Becker, Robert Bender, Jan Young, Jerry Whiteaker, Jack Young.

SJL: Paulette Carlson, Lenny Pingel, Dave Carlson, Paula Vandergrinten, Eric DeHart, Barb Berger, and Tom Hill.

Members & Friends Serving in the Military: Greg & Lydia M., Joe E., Daniel C., Pedraic K., William Ryan K., Joe B., Jacob T., and Johnny.

May God surround them with peace, strength, comfort, and the assurance of Christ's loving presence.

KINDRED LUTHERAN PARISH COUNCILS

Calvary Council	St. John's Lutheran Council
President: Angie Close — 715-610-7118	President: Andy Resch — 715-581-7024
Vice President: TBD	Vice President: Jim Nelson — 920-304-6463
Treasurer: Randy Berg — 608-792-9481	Treasurer: Carol Schairer — 715-581-1829
Acting Secretary: Dave Wagner — 715-618-6116	Secretary: Jessica Fischer — 715-573-5946
Christine Berenz — 715-432-6739	Doug Breyer — 715-593-9471
Ashley Donovan — 715-219-1800	Wayne Clark — 715-326-3153
Melissa Ferg — 715-570-0937	Shirley Thiex — 715-881-0230
Julie Kubiaczyk — 715-216-1906	Jim Schairer — 715-573-0397
Brian Summ — 608-807-6286	Marv Uttecht — 715-219-1767