Summer sunshine has given way to the beauty of autumn. From little learners to college students, backpacks in hand, it's back-to-school time. I thank heaven for the dedication and diligence of our educators in every area. We join our hearts in prayer for teachers, administrators, and students. May God surround them with heavenly protection, encourage their hearts, and bring creativity, steadfastness, and divine understanding to both educators and learners. "You never stop learning. If you have a teacher, you never stop being a student." – Elisabeth Röhm. King David has written a beautiful prayer in Psalm 119, "Teach me, O Lord…give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching. I shall keep it with all my heart." We have been given a promise in John 14:26 – "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things." ALL things. We never stop being a student of God's faithfulness to us. God never tires of teaching us how faithful God's love is. Recently, after a family member had given their beautifully worded remembrance, I stepped back up to the lectern at a funeral I was officiating. I noticed a tear had fallen onto my binder, something that had never happened in over 200 services before. I took a moment to compose myself, reminded that God has called us to help carry the grief of those who mourn. I never want to stop learning how to be a better comforter and supporter to those God brings into my life. How wonderful to know God helps us to be more like Jesus each day. Teach us, O Lord!
In Christ's Love,
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
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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
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Administrative Assistant: Mandy Johnson
Email: calvary.antigo@gmail.com Calvary office:715-623-3102
Office Hours: Monday–Thursday, 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.
Custodian: Richard Tews – 715-623-3522

God's Work. Our Hands. – LWR Kit Assembly

Thank you to everyone who gave to Calvary's Lutheran World Relief kit drives this year. Because of your generosity, our goals have been met! On Sunday, September 13, immediately following the 8:30 a.m. worship service, those who are able to stay are invited to gather in Fellowship Hall to assemble Personal Care Kits and School Kits as part of "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday. September 13 is also Donut/Fellowship Sunday, so following the kit assembly we will enjoy some breakfast-type goodies and fellowship together. Thank you for putting your faith into action and helping provide these gifts of care to neighbors near and far.

Blessing of Quilts and Kits

On Sunday, September 27, the beautiful quilts made by Calvary's Quilters and the Lutheran World Relief kits assembled by our congregation will be displayed in the sanctuary. The quilts and kits will be blessed by Pastor Jennifer during worship before beginning their journey to neighbors in need. We give thanks for our Quilters and for everyone who donated supplies, assembled kits, contributed toward shipping costs, and helped make this ministry possible.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY & WELCA

At Calvary, our Women's Bible Study is called the Friendship Circle. The group meets once a month on the third Tuesday at 2:30 p.m. from September through May. Our September gathering will be Tuesday, September 15 at 2:30 p.m. Currently, we are using the book *Bless These Lips* by Sharla Fritz. Each month's study is based on one section of the book, and we share our books, so please join us whenever you are able. All women are welcome! Whether you have attended before or are thinking about joining for the first time, we would be happy to have you be part of the study, conversation, and fellowship.

This year, we are adding a brief WELCA meeting immediately following the Bible Study for those who would like to stay. WELCA stands for Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. WELCA brings women together for faith, fellowship, service, and opportunities to support the ministry of the church and our wider community.

You do not need to know anything about WELCA beforehand to participate. Come for Bible Study, stay for the meeting if you are interested, and learn more about ways to become involved.

For more information about WELCA, visit ecsw.org/welca.

Holiday Bazaar

Calvary's annual Holiday Bazaar is a wonderful tradition that brings together members of Calvary and friends from the surrounding community for fellowship and fun. Proceeds from the bazaar help support ministries, projects, and other needs at Calvary. Planning is beginning for this year's bazaar, and we are currently looking for someone to serve as the Bazaar Chairperson. The date for this year's bazaar has not yet been finalized but will be announced soon.

We are also looking for approximately 6–9 new items valued at $50 or more for the Major Raffle. Cash donations also make great raffle prizes. Please have raffle donations submitted by September 15 so the tickets can be prepared.

The Holiday Bazaar is one of the many ways Calvary's women gather for fellowship, service, and ministry, and we welcome new ideas and new people who would like to get involved.

If you are interested in helping with the bazaar, donating a raffle prize, or sharing ideas, please contact Mandy at the church office, talk with Pastor Jennifer, or contact Julie Kubiaczyk at 715-216-1906.

Food With Friends

Food With Friends returns Wednesday, September 9, from 4:30–6:00 p.m. at Calvary Lutheran Church.

September's menu will feature beef burgundy, salad, desserts, milk, coffee, and lemonade. Food With Friends continues on the second Wednesday of each month through May. We look forward to another season of good food, fellowship, and serving our neighbors!

OUTREACH & SERVICE

- Calvary's September Noisy Offering – Lutheran World Relief Shipping Fund

Calvary's September Noisy Offering on Sunday, September 20 will be designated for the Lutheran World Relief Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund. For each quilt, Personal Care Kit, Fabric Kit, and School Kit that Calvary sends, it costs approximately $4 to transport, process, store, and ship the item near and far.Your Noisy Offering helps make it possible for the quilts and kits lovingly prepared at Calvary to reach neighbors around the world.

- Calvary's August Noisy Offering - WeekEnd Backpack Program (WEB) –

Calvary's August Noisy Offering supported the Antigo Community Food Pantry WeekEnd Backpack Program. A total of $876.10 was given to help sponsor four children through the Backpack Program for the school year. Pam Bahr presented Calvary's donation on behalf of the congregation. Thank you to everyone who contributed! Your generosity is helping provide food and care for children right here in our community.

- Calvary's Noisy Offering - Supports Local Foster Families

Calvary's Noisy Offering with support from our Social Concerns Committee, provided gift certificates to local Antigo restaurants for foster care families in Langlade County. Mike from Foster Care Connect joyfully received the gift certificates, which will be given to local foster care families. Thank you to everyone whose generosity helps Calvary share Christ's love and care with children and families in our community

- Birthday Cake Kits for the Antigo Community Food Pantry

It's traditional to celebrate birthdays with cake and candles! In the next couple of weeks, let's work together to provide Birthday Cake Kits for families served by the Antigo Community Food Pantry. Our confirmands will assemble the kits for delivery to the Food Pantry.

Each kit should include:

- Disposable aluminum cake pan
- Cake mix / One container of frosting
- One can of soda in a flavor that complements the cake mix
- Birthday candles

That's it! What a simple way to bring joy to a family in need. We're counting on you to provide the components of a kit for our confirmands to assemble. The more kits, the more happy birthdays there will be! Our confirmands will benefit, too, as they see Christ's love in action! Please bring your Birthday Cake Kit donations to Calvary by September 22. Thank you in advance! Calvary Social Concerns Committee

- Thanking Our First Responders A tasty thank-you of Gina's Pizza was delivered to all shifts of the Antigo Fire and Police Departments. Calvary Lutheran Church expresses our sincere gratitude for the many ways these very special people serve and protect our community each day. We give thanks to God for our local first responders and for their dedication to serving our neighbors.

- School Staff Encouragement

Cookies and cards of encouragement were delivered to the Birnamwood, Wittenberg, and Bowler school staffs by Andy Resch president of SJL and Pastor Jennifer as the new school year began.

Thanks be to God for the dedication and selfless giving of those who serve our children each day.

May God bless our teachers, administrators, school staff, students, and families throughout the school year.

THANK YOUS & CELEBRATIONS

- Red Cross Blood Drive Exceeds Goal

Thank you, donors! A total of 36 pints of lifesaving blood were collected during the August American Red Cross Blood Drive held at Calvary. That was 11 units over the collection goal of 25 units!

We are thankful for everyone who was willing to give of themselves to help others, especially during a time of national blood shortage. Thank you to the donors, volunteers, and American Red Cross staff who helped make the blood drive such a success!

- Jesus Palooza 2026

Thank you to Brendan Brooks and all of the MANY volunteers who helped make Jesus Palooza 2026 a wonderful worship experience! More than 150 people attended. The music was amazing, the luncheon was delicious, the little kiddos were dancing, and the morning was filled with worship, fellowship, and joy. What a wonderful way to gather as the body of Christ and celebrate our faith together. Thanks be to God!

- Thank You for Supporting Care Partners

Thank you to the members and friends of Calvary who donated bingo prizes for Care Partners Assisted Living Facility in Antigo. Your generosity will help provide smiles for the residents.

- Thank You, Brian Summ!
  A special thank-you to Brian Summ, who painted the church garage. We appreciate Brian sharing his time and talents to help care for Calvary's property. Thank you, Brian!
- Thank You, Randy Close! A special shoutout and thank-you to Randy Close for the amazing job he did on Calvary's church sign! The improvement certainly has been noticed—even a FedEx delivery person commented on how nice the sign looks. Thank you, Randy, for sharing your time and talents to help make Calvary welcoming to our congregation and community.

Arbutus Congregation Visits Calvary

Arbutus Congregation held its council retreat, led by Pastor Andrea Fluegel, at Calvary in August. We were glad to provide a place for their council to gather for conversation, reflection, fellowship, and planning. We pray God's continued blessings upon their ministry and the work they do together.

St. John's at National Night Out

St. John's participated in National Night Out on August 4 with the fun theme:
"We're not as good as DQ, but we have some great sundaes!"

St. John's volunteers served ice cream with a variety of toppings so those who stopped by could create their own delicious sundaes. There was a great turnout, and the evening provided a wonderful opportunity to bring local residents together with law enforcement, emergency responders. It was a fun evening of fellowship that helped build neighborhood camaraderie and strengthen community connections. Thank you to everyone from St. John's who helped make the evening such a success!

LAY SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP THANK-YOUS

Dear Calvary Church Family,
Thank you so much for your generous support of my journey through ministry lay school, including the gift toward my tuition and everything else you all are doing to support me. Your kindness means more to me than I can fully express, and it's a real encouragement to know this congregation stands behind me as I grow in this calling.
This year I will be taking 2 classes. One on biblical stories behind our most beloved images and how they have moved from the Bible into popular culture and one on exploring, receiving and sharing the Good News. I am very much looking forward to continuing to learn, grow, and share what I have learned with others.
Gifts like this remind me that I'm not walking this path alone — I'm supported by a community that believes in the work God is doing. I'm grateful for your generosity and your prayers, and I look forward to putting what I'm learning into practice in service to our church and community.
Blessings,
Dan

Thank you so much from the bottom of my heart for your generous scholarship support for my Lay School classes. This opportunity means so much to me because growing in my faith and deepening my relationship with God is incredibly important, Through Lay School, I have been able to expand my understanding of Scripture, strengthen my faith, and grow in my desire to serve God and others.
Your generosity is helping me continue a journey that I feel deeply called to pursue. I am truly grateful for your kindness and for investing in my faith and education. Thank you for your gratitude
With sincere gratitude and blessings,
Jordan Green

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

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
Council Member: Christine Berenz — 715-432-6739	Council Member: Doug Breyer — 715-593-9471
Council Member: Ashley Donovan — 715-219-1800	Council Member: Wayne Clark — 715-326-3153
Council Member: Melissa Ferg — 715-570-0937	Council Member: Shirley Thiex — 715-881-0230
Council Member: Julie Kubiaczyk — 715-216-1906	Council Member: Jim Schairer — 715-573-0397
Council Member: Brian Summ — 608-807-6286	Council Member: Marv Uttecht — 715-219-1767

KINDRED LUTHERAN PARISH

SEPTEMBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 • School Staff Cookie Delivery	3 • SJL Outreach – Cloverleaf – 9:30 a.m. • SJL Outreach – Autumn Lanes follows	4	5
6 Communion • CLC Worship – 8:30 a.m. • SJL Worship – 10:30 a.m.	7 • Labor Day • No Quilting • No Reflective Prayer	8 • CLC Council Meeting – 4:30 p.m. • Joint Council Mtg – 6:00 p.m. (CLC) Light meal provided	9 • Food With Friends – 4:30–6:00 p.m. (CLC) Menu: Beef Burgundy	10 • SJL Outreach – Maple View Luncheon – about 11:15 a.m. • CLC Social Concerns Meeting – 1:30 p.m.	11	12
13 WOV Service • CLC Worship – 8:30 a.m. • SJL Worship – 10:30 a.m. • God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday • CLC LWR Kit Assembly –	14 • CLC Quilting – 9:00 a.m. • CLC Reflective Prayer – 12:00–12:30 p.m. • GFWC Antigo Jr. Woman's Club – 6:30 p.m. (CLC) • SJL Council Meeting – 6:30	15 • CLC Funeral Com. Meeting – 1:30p.m. • CLC WELCA Friendship Bible Study – 2:30 p.m. • Brief WELCA meeting follows **DEADLINE: Holiday Bazaar Major Raffle donations**	16 **CONFIRMATION CLASS:** 3:30 p.m. – CLC 5:30 p.m. – SJL	17	18	19
20 Communion • CLC Worship – 8:30 a.m. • SJL Worship – 10:30 a.m. • CLC Noisy Offering – LWR Shipping Fund	21 • CLC Quilting – 9:00 a.m. • CLC Reflective Prayer – 12:00–12:30 p.m.	22 • Eastview Music – 2:00–3:00 p.m. Pastor Jennifer & Liz Dickman **DUE: CLC Birthday Cake Kit donations**	23	24	25	26
27 Non-Communion • CLC Worship – 8:30 a.m. • SJL Worship – 10:30 a.m. • CLC Blessing of Quilts & Kits	28 • CLC Quilting – 9:00 a.m. • CLC Reflective Prayer – 12:00–12:30 p.m.	29	30			