

The Calvary Focus

OCTOBER 2025

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Fall is here! It is the season for crisp and cool mornings, leaves changing color, and dessert is not dessert if it does not have apple or pumpkin. I love this time of year, not just because of the fall weather and vibes, but because it holds many significant dates within the church year. We will celebrate World Communion on Sunday, October 5th. World Communion Sunday celebrates the unity and diversity of the universal Christian community. As we gather around the Lord's table, we recognize our unity in Christ, joining with others worldwide in Holy Communion.

When I think of World Communion Sunday, I think about the trip I took to Havana, Cuba in January 2018 with my seminary. We visited and worshipped in the churches in the Havana District of the Methodist Church. Our trip fell on the first Sunday in January, so we celebrated Holy Communion at one of the churches that morning. I knew Spanish decently well, but not well enough to be fluent or to know everything being said in worship. However, when it came to Holy Communion, I may not have known all that they were saying in the Great Thanksgiving, but I still recognized and felt the presence of Jesus Christ. We spoke different languages, but we were one in the Spirit. And that is what World Communion Sunday is all about. We are diverse but united at this table of grace. We celebrate Holy Communion together with all Christians around the world and throughout time. What a beautiful, sacred moment in the life of the Church.

Recognizing the significance of bread in the act of Holy Communion, and in the varying types of bread that we have around the world, our October sermon series will focus on Jesus, the Bread of Life. We will journey through John 6, learning what it means that Jesus is the Bread of Life and how that impacts us as we follow Jesus. This series will go beyond Sunday mornings. First, we will have a missional component and do a collection of sandwich bread for the peanut butter and jelly sandwiches we make each week. The bread collection will take place on Sunday, October 26. Second, we will have fun with this series through a Make Your Own Quick Bread class here at Calvary, more details to come.

We will also welcome Rev. Carl Hetler as our guest preacher on Sunday, October 19th, as my family and I will be out of town that weekend during Mishawaka's fall break. Rev. Hetler has preached here before and is the Coordinator for Homeless Outreach for the city of South Bend.

Here's to a fall full of faith, community, and all the pumpkin spice your heart desires.

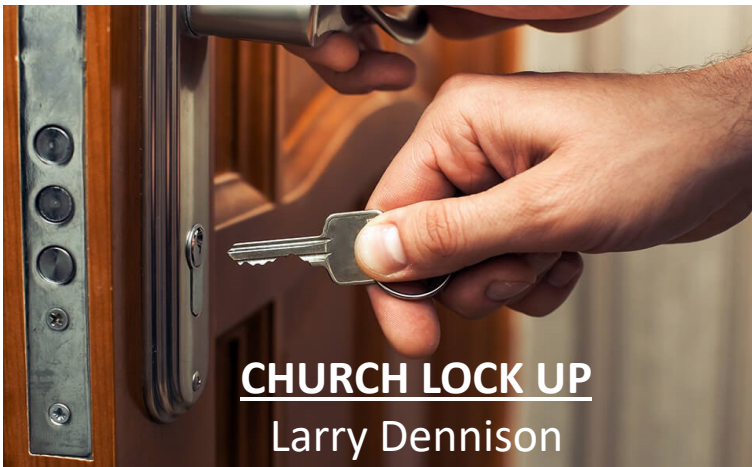
In Christ,
Pastor Amanda



- 10 Ben Strycker
- 11 Tricia De La Virgen
- 15 Shirley Mynhier
- 18 Wayne McLaughlin
- 23 Tia Proud
- 31 Connor Johnson
- Corbin Johnson
- Louise Rieth



- 6 Louis & Virginia Scott
- 8 Danny & Tricia De La Virgen
- 9 Joe & Becca Crimmins



CHURCH LOCK UP
Larry Dennison



Traveling Communion

Do you worship from home and live locally? Pastor Amanda has started bringing communion to congregants in their homes on the Monday after a Communion Sunday. The upcoming dates are October 6, November 3 and December 8. If you would like communion brought to you, please contact the church office by 9:00 a.m. that Monday.



**LADIES!
LET'S GO TO LUNCH**

McAlister's Deli October 18, 2025

Ladies Go To Lunch will be heading McAlister's Deli, 285 County Road 6, Elkhart, Saturday, October 18. A carpool leaves at 12:45 p.m. for a 1:00 p.m. lunch time. All ladies are invited to attend. Please call the church office, 574-293-0783, if you are planning to attend. Come and bring a friend or relative. All ladies are welcome.



Do not forget to mark your calendars. The November Focus deadline is Monday, October 20, 2025!!



Pastor Appreciation Day is Sunday, October 26 . This is a special time for our congregation to honor Pastor Amanda and Mitchell for their hard work and dedication. All notes and cards can be placed in the baskets found in the Narthex and the Fellowship Hall. While we recognize Pastor Amanda on Pastor Appreciation Day, please remember that affirmation and prayer support is appreciated throughout the year.



Charge Conference

Sunday, October 12
1:30 pm Warsaw Frist UMC

SAVE
THE DATE



TRIVIA NIGHT

FUNDRAISER FOR
CHURCH COMMUNITY SERVICES

Saturday, October 25, 2025 @ 6:00 pm

Start gathering a team for a fun filled night of trivia. Calvary is hosting a Trivia Night fundraiser for Church Community Services. More details to follow.



And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him.

Romans 8:28

An old farmer was asked to give a prayer. He prayed that he didn't like buttermilk. He said "I don't like raw flour, I don't like lard, but you mix them all together you get biscuits. I like biscuits."

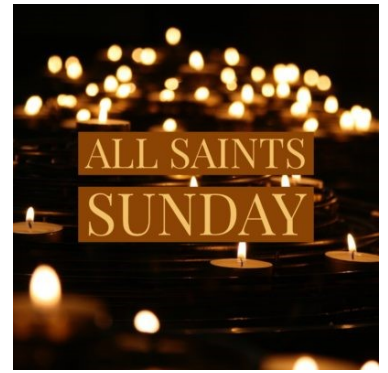
Life is like that, things happen in our lives that we don't like. We face trials and temptation, but we need to remember that God is not finished with the mixing yet.

If we have the faith He will make all things work for the good of those who love Him, we will become what He wants us to become.

**All Saint's Sunday,
Sunday, November 2**

Names and photos are needed

Calvary will be honoring those who have passed on to the Lord's home since last November. If you have a loved one or friend that you would like to have honored, please submit their name, a picture, their date of birth and date of death to the church office, no later than Sunday, October 19. Email the information to office@elkhartcalvaryumc.org. You may drop them off during office hours or they may be left in the church office mailbox on the back side of the brick post. All submitted photos will be returned after Sunday, November 2. Please have all names and photos submitted by Sunday, October 19. Also, just as a reminder, the names and photos will be live-streamed on Sunday, November 2.



***SOUP & SANDWICH
COMMUNITY DINNER***
Thursday, October 2 @ 6:00 pm
Come join us for a time of fellowship, while enjoying several different soups.
This is a free meal for everyone.

Scripture Reader Schedule:

September Schedule:

10/05/2025	Kristen Williams	John 6:1-15 (NRSVUE)
10/12/2025	Jackie Mann	John 6:22-35 (NRSVUE)
10/19/2025	Steve Basse	TBD
10/26/2025	Janet Dennison	John 6:35 (NRSVUE) John 6:41-58 (NRSVUE)



Elkhart Calvary United Methodist Church
2222 West Indiana Ave.
Elkhart, IN 46516

Return Service Requested



Sharing the love of God through words and actions

**PLEASE KEEP OUR WORLD, OUR NATION, OUR CHURCH AND
THE MEN AND WOMEN SERVING OUR COUNTRY IN YOUR PRAYERS**



- Calvary's Website: **www.elkhartcalvaryumc.org**
- Calvary's Facebook Page: **Elkhart Calvary UMC**
- Prayer Request: **elkhartcalvary.prayer@gmail.com**

DONATE



- Donate to help Calvary Share the love of God through words and actions:
<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/d45a1315-6f3e-4d20-980f-4187bbc0d6e0>