

The Calvary Focus

SEPTEMBER 2025

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September is a month of change. The air grows cooler, the days shorten, and we begin to notice the first hints of fall all around us. For many, it's a time of returning to familiar routines after the slower pace of summer.

As I reflect on this season, I'm reminded of Ecclesiastes 3:1, which says, "*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.*" This verse invites us to pay attention to the movements of our lives and the ways God is at work in each season.

For some, September brings excitement and new beginnings. For others, it can feel heavy as schedules crowd in and responsibilities increase. Wherever you find yourself this month—whether eager, weary, hopeful, or unsure—I encourage you to look for God's presence in the midst of it.

This is also a season for the church to lean into its mission. We are called not just to gather on Sundays, but to be a community that loves boldly, serves joyfully, and leads courageously throughout the week. My prayer is that we will use this new season to deepen our roots in faith and to reach outward in love.

Our September sermon series is called "Taking Hold of True Life." This 3-week series will follow the lectionary readings from 1 Timothy and we will explore what it means to have life in Christ. The Christian life is not about clinging to status, possessions, or self-reliance, but about embracing the grace of Christ, living with prayerful dependence on God, and practicing generous, faithful living. Through Paul's words to Timothy, we will discover that true life is found in Christ alone—and it is a life we are called to receive with gratitude and to live out with courage.

As we step into September, may we remember that God is faithful in every season. Just as the leaves will turn and the harvest will come, so too will God bring growth and renewal in our lives and in our church.

In Christ,
Pastor Amanda



- 9 Jackie Mann
- 10 Tim Herrli
- 15 Annette Leer
- 17 Liz Shrock
- 20 Lauren Stubbs
- 30 Freelove Arnold



- 3 Paul & Sherry Martin
- 23 Gary & Cindy Checkley
- 26 Andrew & Deb Bledsoe



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 September 8 and October 6. If you would like communion brought to you, please contact the church office by 9:00 a.m. that Monday.

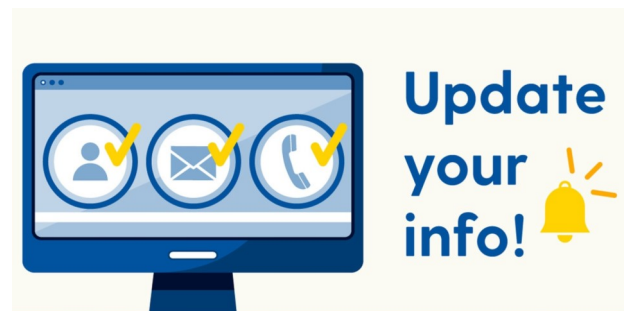


Culver's in Goshen September 20, 2025

Ladies Go To Lunch will be heading to Culver's, 2024 Elkhart Road, Goshen, Saturday, September 20. A carpool leaves at 12:30 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.



CHURCH LOCK UP Jennifer Martin



It is time to update your information with the church office. If you have had any changes to your address, phone, email, etc. since 2023, please reach out to the church office. You are welcome to call the church office or send an email, 574-293-0783 or office@elkhartcalvaryumc.org



Do you know who Jesus is?

I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me.

John 10:14

Do you know who Jesus is?

A preacher from Oklahoma once asked that question.

He asked, do you know who Jesus is, do you know, that you know, that you really know who Jesus is?

Do you?

Lay Servant Academy



Lay Servant Academy is a lay leadership development program designed to equip and empower the laity to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ who then go out and make more disciples of Jesus Christ. Four classes will be offered online, and the options are listed below. There is a small cost for each class, but scholarships are available. If you are interested in taking a course, contact Pastor Amanda.

Living Our United Methodist Beliefs: September 6, 13, 20, 27

Justice in Everyday Life: October 8, 15, 22, 29

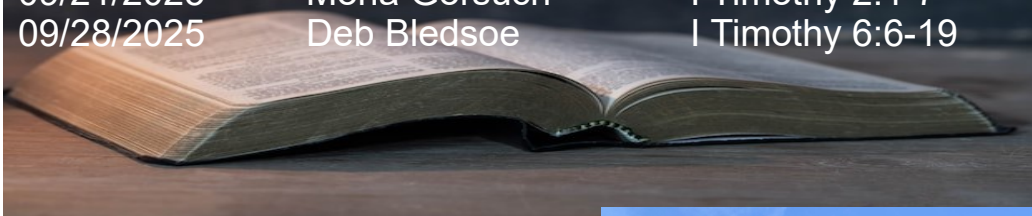
Fun with Polity: January 10, 17, 24, 26, 2026

Soul Reset, Relearning the Rhythms of Grace: February 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

Scripture Reader Schedule:

September Schedule:

| | | |
|------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 09/07/2025 | Steve Basse | John 15:1-8 |
| 09/14/2025 | Janet Dennison | I Timothy 1:12-17 |
| 09/21/2025 | Mona Gorsuch | I Timothy 2:1-7 |
| 09/28/2025 | Deb Bledsoe | I Timothy 6:6-19 |



Do not forget to mark your calendars. The September Focus deadline is Saturday, September 20!!!

LAST SUMMER COMMUNITY PICNIC

Thursday, September 4 at 6:00 pm

Come join us for a time of fellowship, hot dogs, side dishes, ice cream and more. There will be indoor and outdoor seating.

This is a free meal for everyone.



FALL WORD SEARCH

Fall Word Search

C U W V B F K S Q S W H A R V E S T H G
O Y S M A N T A T O U U O G K R P M L E
A C F D F O O T B A L L W B T Q W O Z B
S E E Z Z A G E R Y N T U E N I B E X R
W J P N X T B U W A A P P L E C I D E R
E A U O A H U D C N U T U U U N C T A Q
A P R V S A U U R K K P P Z M H R B C T
T P L E A N N O J Y S R P C U P A G I C
E L E M J K C A D B E F W K E U K Y M K
R E A B U S K F Y O P L I O H Z E I Y B
P S V E L G P H L N T Z H P S J S Q N O
Q Q E R S I Q A W F E Y E M U W E Q J O
J N S O M V V C N I M C O Q N R M W K T
T B M E K I F Z B R B R Y C F K N L J S
V Y A P N N Q K G E E A V G L U T A A O
V N R R D G H N A B R U Q T O O N I G V
C Y A O O P I Q O N H T X F W J Z Y P E
L C X F E A L T K O E U W Z E S U P P B
R D E F I D C W K O Q M Z Q R B F Z U S
D R Q R J O V Z O Y W N C J G R K N E U



CORN
AUTUMN
BONFIRE
BOOTS
OCTOBER
RAKE

THANKSGIVING
HARVEST
LEAVES
CARNIVAL
APPLES
APPLE CIDER

PUMPKIN
FOOTBALL
SWEATER
NOVEMBER
SEPTEMBER
SUNFLOWER



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>