

The Calvary Call

August 2024

Calvary Lutheran Church 4400 Central St. Sioux City, IA 51108 — 712-239-1575— www.calvaryleeds.com
Senior Pastor-Rev. James Travis, Associate Pastor-Rev. Alex Smith

CALVARY KIDS' DAY CAMPS AND VBS

FREE REGISTRATION
CALVARYLEEDS.COM



DAY CAMP #3
KIDS' COOKING CAMP
AUGUST 6, 2024
9 AM TO 3 PM

Day Camp is about Jesus!

Rally Day - September 8

8 AM - Church
9:15 AM - Sunday School
10:30 AM - Outdoor
Church (Courtyard Weather Permitting)
11:30 - Picnic and Activities
- Contact Social Ministry Board

WNAC

Wednesday Night At Calvary
Where families grow together in faith through the study of the Holy Scriptures.



Information Meeting
Wednesday
Aug. 28 @ 6 PM

Confirmation

All Ages - Pre-K - Adult Confirmation - 5th - 8th

September Classes - Wednesdays @ 7 PM
October - April Class Wednesdays @ 5:30 PM

One more Day Camp left. Limited spaces available. So Hurry. Tuesday August 6. 9 am-3 pm.

August 2024

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The Story

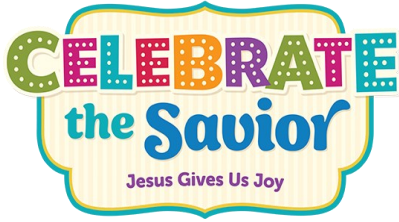
The Story is returning to Calvary Sunday September 22 with sermons and Bible Study along with home materials! The Story is an opportunity to read through all the Stories of the Bible in chronological order so that you can have a better understanding of God's plan. If you have never read the Bible all the way through this is a good way to start. For those who have read the Bible through I would recommend using our longer lectionary. Often in church our focus rightly is on the the New Testament and how Jesus fulfills the Old Testament. This

focus sometimes inadvertently causes us to skip some Old Testament Books. What you will find is that all the Old Testament points us to Jesus, even those parts that are read less often. We will read the stories read less often!



8:00 am & 10:30 am
Sunday Services return
September 8.

VBS



We had 29 children attend VBS this year. Celebrating the Savior each day with a different story from His birth through the events of His feeding of the 5,000, His death, resurrection and His walk to Emmaus with 2 of His disciples.



Pastor Travis' Message-The Separation of Church and State

There is no such thing as true separation of church and state, but this little article will explain the concept. See James Madison for many of the issues. A better title would be religious freedom.

Martin Luther developed the understanding of the right-hand kingdom being the church and the left-hand kingdom being the government. Both kingdoms have their own distinct purpose. The Church's position is to offer the forgiveness of sins and grace on behalf of Jesus Christ. The Government's job is to create law and order and to use laws and the sword (i.e. all means of punishment) to establish such law and order.

Luther taught that the Government should not be telling the church how to be the church, in other words it should not tell the church how to forgive people etc. Likewise, the church should not tell the government how to apply the law.

Why such a separation? Two case scenarios are helpful. The Baptist church might decide that the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod is doing evil by baptizing infants so the government should step-in and lock up all LCMS pastors. Obviously, such an action would be the Baptist Church usurping the Federal Government to beat up another church. Likewise, the government should not say to Calvary Lutheran Church, "Church, you need to hire woman to be pastors to meet employment discrimination rights." This would be wrong because Calvary needs to listen to God not the government.

However, though there must be separation, the separation is mostly administrative, because every Christian must full live out his Christian beliefs fully both in the left and right hand kingdom. As a Christian working in government, I live out my faith by following all 10 commandments in public life. For example, I may use the means of the government to care for the poor and needy. Likewise, I might try to wield the sword of government to prevent suicide, abortion, and even promote healthy families which lead to better society. A democracy cannot function without moral/Christian people. Imagine a society where coveting and not putting the best construction on everything were the norm

A second example, I knew a Judge growing up, Judge Sheridan, he would sentence youth to prison and community service. He would use the full force of the law with the gavel to punish wrong doing. But

he would take off his robes after sentencing the person and then work with them as a Christian sharing Jesus and forgiveness. Judge Sheridan acted both in the left-hand kingdom punishing wrong, but turning around in the right-hand kingdom and sharing Jesus. Both kingdoms are upheld fully!

We as Christians ultimately cannot separate our life in both kingdoms, however both kingdoms must not enforce laws over each other in the function of law and gospel.

A crazy caveat: The government makes a law that a building must have fire exits. It forces its law on the church to protect the people using the building. This is the proper separation of church and state, as the government is acting by law to protect people even in the church. However, if the government says, "You can't meet because they believe in Jesus and are against abortion," then this would be a violation of the separation of church and state.

A second caveat: Pastors do not preach for or against individual candidates running for government office, however, pastors will and should preach against the policies of the candidate. For example: A pastor should say do not vote for people who are pro-abortion, pro-homosexuality, pro-lying, pro-lawlessness, etc.. Instead, vote for people who will use law and order to maintain justice and order in society." We could say, presently, this candidate is saying good things and this one is holding poor positions, but to out rightly endorse publicly would be to assume that the person would remain the same once elected to office. The elected officially very easily could do the exact opposite of what they said when running for office! This is the nature of people in public office.

Religious Freedom is a better name for this concept than Separation of Church and State. This is definitely not Separation of the State from Church! Church people better carry out morals in the church!

In Christ,

Pastor James Travis

The Calvary Call

Pastor Alex' Message-How to start something new/ restart after a break

Dear friends in Christ

Have you ever had to try something new or restart something that you tried before after a short or long break away from doing it? When we start something new or try and get back into the habit or routine that we may have broken for a while, it can be really difficult. But remember, our faith can be a powerful tool in these situations, providing us with the strength and guidance we need. Starting something new, more time than not, means stepping outside of our comfort zone. We all have this little bubble that we like to stay in. Let me stay in the realm where I know what I am going to do or how I might react when something happens that I was not expecting to happen.

For me, whenever I try something new, there is always one thing that keeps floating around in the back of my head. How can I accomplish this new task or how can I start this new job with my disability the way that it is? Going into a new situation always presents challenges for anybody, but for me, at least in my mind, it is magnified even more because of my disability. I keep this thought in my mind that people look at me and immediately they see the brace. Most times, that is not the case. If people know the brace, it is because I make it visible or hard to ignore. They do not see it because that was the first thing that they noticed; no, they see it because I make it so hard to miss. I have such a heightened sense of the brace since I am used to it that I feel like that is the first thing that other people see when they look at me.

I had the same thoughts coming here; even in the interview with your call committee, I made the fact of my brace and disability very apparent. Before we ended the meeting, I wanted to make sure that they knew that I had this disability. Did they ask if there was anything that they should know or that might hinder my ability to do the job? Probably not, however, I wanted to be as upfront as possible. When we are upfront about something, especially when we are starting something new, it can sometimes make the transition a lot smoother than when we try and keep things from people. Transparency can facilitate a smoother transition and build trust.

Sometimes, we do not want to be our authentic selves; we want to put a "mask" on, so to speak, as

we try to make it so that people see the stuff we want them to see. Think of social media, for example; most people do not post the bad things that are going on in their lives on social media; they post the highlights. They want you to see all the great things that are going on in their lives, not all the bad things. We all want to portray our best selves and want people to see who this rock star really is.

In my opinion, the test of a friendship or getting to know someone is when you start to see all the things they do not want you to see. That is when people really show you if they like you or not. God loves you, even as you try to hide your flaws and insecurities as you embark on new journeys or get back into the habit of doing things. He sees you, and he loves you. As the school year approaches, some families are trying to get back into the swing of church attendance and youth groups. I know there were times when I was a child that if I missed a couple of weeks in a row, I felt terrible. I felt like God and my pastor could not forgive me for missing. That is not true. God sees you coming back and says, welcome home, child. So, as we embark on a new school year and this new journey together, I pray God's blessings upon all of you.

In Christ;
Pastor Alex



2024

How *The Story* works: Some Frequently Asked Questions

How do I participate in *The Story*?

Corporately (Together):

Simply Come to Church – Each Week the Sermon will go through the Bible in Chronological Order – Highlighting Key Old and New Testament Events.

Bible Class/Sunday School – We will offer studies on Sunday Morning and during Wednesday Night at Calvary to walk through the Bible Stories.

You can get materials to form your own small group study. Contact the church to receive more information.

Individually:

Daily Reading Option 1: There are daily readings set up for the first time Bible reader. If you choose this option you will read through half of the Bible in 31 weeks chronologically. It is designed to give you the big picture of events that happened in the Bible. This option would also be appropriate for those who would like to read along with their parents. (1-2 chapters of the Bible per day.) Children's Bibles may also be used to follow along with the very young. This option can use any Bible or the *Story Bible* provided. www.calvaryleeds.com

Daily Reading Option 2: There are daily readings set up for the more experienced Bible reader who would like to read the entire Bible Chronologically. One Psalm will be read each day along with a chapter

from the Book of Proverbs. The reader will read through all the genealogies and sacrificial rules of the Old Testament which all point to Jesus. (3-5 chapters of Bible reading per day.) This option uses the Bible you already have.

What options are available to adults who want to connect with others reading *The Story*?

- Attend *The Story* Nights on Wednesday Evenings
- Participate in Sunday morning class
- Participate in Thursday 10 AM Group at Church
- Participate in Sunday School
- Participate in WNAC – The youth will be reading through the book of Genesis
- Read *The Story* with your family.

Are copies of *The Story* still available?

Books for all ages are available for sale in the Church Office and the cost is \$6 for *The Story*.

Can I use my own Bible?

- Yes, you are encouraged to use your own Bible, especially if you want to read through the entire scriptures!



September Sermon Series:

The following sermons are designed for our 5th-8th grade confirmation classes and their families. However, all members of the church will enjoy hearing the answers to the following questions:

Sept. 4 - How did we get the Bible? —7 PM (Class 1)

Sept. 11—How Reliable is the Bible?—7 PM (Class 2)

Sept. 18—What is in the Old Testament? - 7 PM (Class 3) - Overview of the OT Timeline

Sept. 25—What is in the New Testament? 7 PM (Class 4) - Overview of the NT Timeline

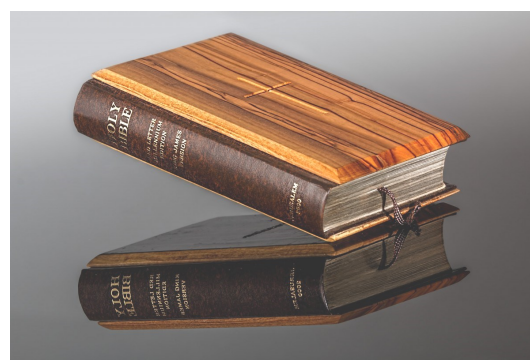
Rally Day - September 8

8 AM - Church

9:15 AM - Sunday School

10:30 AM - Outdoor Church (Courtyard Weather Permitting)

11:30 - Picnic and Activities - Contact Social Ministry Board



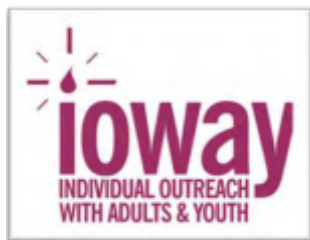
Plan To attend Rally Day!

The Calvary Call

Rev. Dr. B. Keith Haney-Why Grace is Amazing?

The thought that hit me this month was grace. At its core, grace is about God's love for humanity. God cares so deeply for a fallen and broken world that He offers it a solution, a way out. God provides grace for a guilt-ridden world. The message of grace is connected with forgiveness and healing spoken in our churches and through the mouths and lives of those who are followers of Jesus. Our prayer is to allow us, Lord, to live grace-filled lives among those unconnected and those who are beaten down by the effects of sin. Grace is clearly revealed in Paul's letter to a young group of believers in Corinth, "God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation" (1 Corinthians 5:19). Grace is revealed also in the waters of Holy Baptism. As Tertullian once shared, "How mighty is the grace of water, in the sight of God and His Christ, for the confirmation of Baptism! Never is Christ without water: He who is Himself in water (Matt. 3:13-17) inaugurates in water the first display of His power when invited to the wedding in Cana (John 2:1-11); in His preaching, He invites the thirsty to His own eternal

water (John 7:37-38; John 4:6ff). And when He is wounded, after His death, water bursts forth from His side that had been pierced with the soldier's lance (John 19:34)!" If you want a daily visible reminder of God's grace, it is found around you everywhere in the form of water. May you be a refreshing drink to the souls of those around you as you live out this year filled with grace. Rev. Dr. B. Keith Haney, Assistant to the President keith@iowadistrictwest.org.



These past few months, the words of David in Psalm 46 have continued to play in my mind quite frequently. The first three verses, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging," surely have been seen over the past several months in our district in multiple ways we consider disastrous. This is outside of all the personal struggles we have and deal with – family, friends, work, things going on at church, groups we belong to, health, and many others. It's easy to get

caught up in the tragedies of verses two and three and spin into a negative cycle of thinking, or possibly even apathy that there is nothing to do but despair. If you listen to storm chasers, national TV news, and many of the headlines that grab our attention on social media it indeed seems like the sinful nature of our world is raining destruction. Well, it is – but it doesn't win! We worship the one true God of the universe. The one who created us in His image and justified us through the death and resurrection of Jesus. I'm going to encourage you to keep reading Psalm 46 – focusing on verses 10-11. "He says, 'Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.' The Lord Almighty is with us; the (Continued on pg 7)

Bulletin & Newsletter Deadlines: All information for the weekly bulletins must be turned into the Church Office no later than 12 noon on Thursdays. All information for the monthly newsletter must be turned into the Church Office no later than 10 am on the 3rd Monday of each month. Thank you! The *Calvary Call* is published monthly by Calvary Lutheran Church, 4400 Central Street, Sioux City, Iowa, 51108.

Contact us: Phone 712-239-1575; ; email — Pastor Travis: Rev.Travis@hotmail.com; Pastor Alex Smith: revalexsmith24@gmail.com; Church Office: CalvarySecretary@aol.com; Church Website: calvaryleeds.com; Facebook- <http://www.facebook.com/CalvaryLeeds>

Worship Assistants for August 2024

Elders

August

Sun., Aug. 4, 9:00 am: Jim Torgerson
Wed., Aug. 7, 7:00 pm: Volunteer
Sun., Aug. 11, 9:00 am: Brian Hickman
Wed., Aug. 14, 7:00 pm: Volunteer
Sun., Aug. 18, 9:00 am: Dave Claussen
Wed., Aug. 21, 7:00 pm: Volunteer
Sun., Aug. 25, 9:00 am: Brad Cale
Wed., Aug. 28, 7:00 pm: Volunteer



Chancel Guild

August

Sun., Aug. 4, 9:00 am: Julie Barto, Sandy Ohl
Wed., Aug. 6, 9:00 pm: Terri Guy, Angela Lias
Sun., Aug. 18, 9:00 am.: Penny Miller, Vicky Boddy
Wed., Aug. 21, 7:00pm: Teri Mevius, Tammy Rawson

Calvary Picnic & Outdoor Worship-Sept. 8, 2024

Outdoor Worship-10:30 am in courtyard. Bring your lawn chairs.

Picnic-Parish hall and outdoors

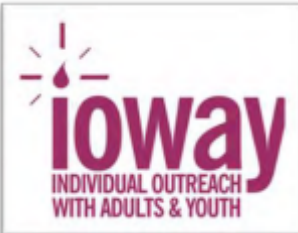
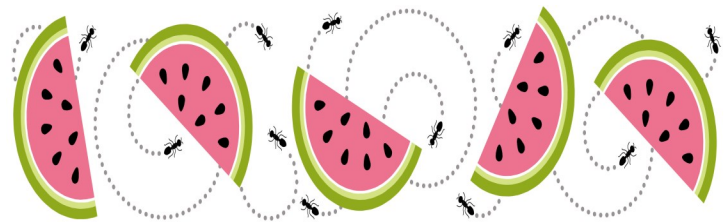
Chicken, potatoes and drinks provided. Bring a side dish.

Last names-A-L bring hot dish or salad to 8-10 people

Last names-M-Z bring dessert

There will be a silent auction.

Please donate new items to the church office. Funds from auction will be directed by social Ministries.



(Continued from pg 6) God of Jacob is our fortress." Find a place in your home, or in my opinion a better spot somewhere in the beauty of natural creation, to sit and let God speak to your heart and

soul. Put the phone down or read scripture on it. Listen to some favorite hymns or worship songs. Sit and look at the beauty that He created for us. Have you ever noticed how many shades of green there are? Wow! Look at the perfect geometry designs of the planned natural world in the patterns and artwork of plants, animals, and insects. Take some deep breathes and be quiet (not my strength). We serve a majestic artist who deserves more than a quick and cursory nod in our manufactured busy-ness.

Taking a break, some thoughts/ideas:

✓ Lay out a blanket in the yard and observe the

clouds or stars.

✓ Find a favorite Psalm or other section of verses that uplift you and read them out loud, or have your phone read them to you. Contemplate the amazingsness that God's words are for you.

✓ Get yourself to some water. Put your feet in, swim, paddle board, kayak, or sit in a camp chair and just watch it. Think of all the creatures He takes care of and know that you are at the top of that list.

✓ Pray.

✓ Be still – listen to the Holy Spirit guiding you, filling you up, and restoring you for whatever may come next.

Julie Mann

IOWAY Director / Disaster Response Coordinator

julie@iowadistrictwest.org

515-408-9696

Membership Class

Do you want to learn more about the Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod? Do you want to become a member of Calvary Lutheran Church? Do you want to refresh your Confirmation lessons from long ago? Classes are Thursday at 7:00 pm. Each class is about 1 hour long and meets for 10 sessions. If interested please contact Pastor Travis at 712-202-8516 or the church office at 712-239-1575.



August Birthdays



If your birthday is missing or not correct, please call the Church Office at 712-239-1575 and give us the correct information. Thanks and have a great birthday!)

Lutherans for Life

“Through our vocations, both permanent and temporary, Christians are gifted opportunities to share the Gospel-motivated message that every life is valuable, and in so doing, carry the light of Christ into dark places filled with sin and death. It’s true, this work won’t always be easy; there may be times when we wonder about the path God has placed us on. But we can be confident that we aren’t traveling alone. Christ goes with us, and His grace is sufficient. Always.” *Michelle Bauman, Director of Y4Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Altar Flowers

Commemorate a special occasion or remember a loved one by providing altar flowers for the worship services through November of 2024, during December we decorate with Poinsettias. Sign your name to the poster in the Friendship Room or call the church office at 712-239-1575 for 2024 and we will order a bouquet from Bittersweet Florals Flower Shop for a cost of \$63.50. Thank you for adding to our services with flowers.

Finance Secretary's Report

<i>Income Received for June, 2024</i>	\$26,311.75
Envelopes.....	\$23,491.10
Plate.....	131.64
Special Service Donations.....	0.00
Checking Account Interest.....	10.29
YTD Envelope & Plate Total:.....	\$23,633.03
Designated Funds	
Nancy Harrison Designated Fund.....	913.72
Birthday Scholarship.....	200.00
Building Fund.....	420.00
Tuckpointing Funf.....	800.00
Donut Stop (Donuts).....	33.00
Flowers (Lillies).....	64.00
Parish Hall Use.....	28.00
Pastor's Special Account.....	150.00
Sunday School Missions.....	5.00
Free Will (Tornado Relief).....	5.00
Griefshare.....	60.00
Thrivent.....	0.00
WNAC Pizza/Projects.....	0.00
Youth Activities.....	0.00
Subtotal Designated Funds.....	2,678.72
Total Monthly Contributions.....	\$26,311.75
Deposits:	
Week 1.....	\$7,163.60
Week 2.....	4,794.50
Week 3.....	6,604.00
Week 4.....	3,751.64
Week 5.....	3,987.72
Thrivent Choice.....	0.00
Checking Interest.....	10.29
Total.....	\$26,311.75
2024 Year-to-Date Total:.....	\$26,311.75

Treasurer's Statement of Income & Expense

<i>June 2024</i>	
Checking Account Balance, 6/01/24	\$254,932.57
Plus Income	\$ 26,301.46
Less Expense	(32,911.51)
Plus Interest	10.29
Plus transf. from LCEF	0.00
	<u>0.00</u>
	\$ (6,599.76)
Checking Account Balance	\$ 248,332.81
LCEF Steward Account Balance 6/01/24	
	\$10,262.96
Plus Transfers In	0.00
Less Transfers Out	0.00
Plus Interest	4.91
	<u>4.91</u>
LCEF Steward Account Balance 6/30/24	\$10,267.87
Dedicated Funds	
Social Ministries	\$1,520.00
Building Fund	8,399.37
Designated Memorials	5,618.08
Undesignated Memorials	1,010.00
Dedicated Accounts	21,861.43
Outside Purposes	376.81
National Youth Gathering	0.00
World Missions	0.00
Capital Improvement	0.00
Total All Obligated Funds	\$ 37,785.69
Un-obligated Funds	<u>219,814.99</u>
Total Checking & Savings Funds	\$ 258,600.68

Grief Share

The daytime group sessions will continue through August 20, 10:30 - Noon. The evening group sessions will take place from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. through Thursday, August 22. All are welcome. Bring a friend. Participant exercise books are at no cost (\$20) to you. To register please go to calvaryleeds.com. Turn your mourning into joy. Call 712-389-5226 for additional information. Continued blessings from the Lord to you and your family.

On the first Monday of each month there will be a GriefShare Reunion Coffee/Conversation in the Parish hall at 10:30 am.



National Youth Gathering-July 19-23, 2025



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod’s National Youth Gathering is scheduled for July 19–23, 2025, in New Orleans, La.

Registration is scheduled to open in fall 2024. More information will be posted on this page as it becomes available.

Our Members in the Military

Please pray for these members:

- Trisha Hansen Goethring
- Taylor Jones
- Riley McFarland
- Cole Barbee
- Timothy Mingo, Jr.
- Colbie Larson
- Collen Larson

(If your family has someone in the Military, call us and we will add their names to the list - 712-239-1575.)



Our Church Family

Transferred to the Church Triumphant

Violet Reinholdt-6/1/24-nonmember
Nancy Harrison-6/12/24

Baptized

Cooper Allen Tillo-7/14/24

Ordained & Installed

Pastor Alex Smith-7/14/24

Book Club

Book Club will return in September with an exciting new book.



Calvary Members at Home

Northern Hills:

Sue L (Member of Trinity Hinton)
Marjorie D

Westwood:

Jan P (A Calvary Guest)

Pioneer Village:

Bonnie O

Storm Lake:

Roger & Judy R

Whispering Creek:

Bel A

Valley Lake, Valley, NE:

Eva K

Acura Health:

Barbara K

At Home:

Sue W

Mary Lou B

Maryrose M

Bary B

Lois M

Bev W

Barb S

Joe B (Member of a sister church in NE)

Ellen K

Clair & Linda T



August 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:30 pm Grief-Share	2	3
4 9:00am Worship W/Communion 10:15am Bible Study	5 Pastor Alex Family Day 10:30 am Grief-Share Reunion Coffee/ Conversation Pastor Alex on Call	6 9:00 am-3:00 pm Cooking Day Camp w/Chef Jimmy 10:30 am Grief-Share 7:00 pm Debo-rah circle	7 9:00 am Lamp-lighters-Redeemer 9:30 am-Pheasant Acres 7:00pm Worship	8 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Grief-Share	9 7:00 pm Gospel Mission	10 8:00 am-8:00 pm Prayer Vigil
11 9:00am Worship 10:15am Bible Study Mite Sunday Donut Stop National Youth Gathering Meet- ing At Redeem-er 5:00 pm	12 Pastor Alex & Travis Family day Pastor Travis On Call	13 8:00 am-Pastor Alex Orientation-Ft Dodge 10:30 am Grief-Share 5:30 pm Board of Education 6:30 pm Out-reach at Bob's Burgers 7:00 pm Trus-tees	14 10:30 am North-ern Hills 1:00 pm Worship w/HC 7:00pm Worship	15 10:00am Bible Study 6:30 pm Grief-Share	16	17
18 9:00am Worship W/Communion 10:15am Bible Study	19 Pastor Alex & Travis Family day Pastor Alex on Call	20 10:30 am Grief-Share 6:15 pm Worship & Music 7:00 pm Elders	21 3:00 pm Casa de Paz 7:00pm Worship	22 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Grief-Share 6:30 pm CLWL	23	24 8:30 am & 10:30 am Mercy Meals at Faith
25 9:00am Worship 10:15am Bible Study	26 Pastor Alex & Travis Family day Pastor Travis On Call	27 5:00 pm Youth Board 7:00 pm Council Meeting	28 10:30 am North-ern Hills 6:00 pm Confir-mation meeting for 5-8th Grade Students 7:00pm Worship	29 10:00am Bible Study	30	31

Calvary Lutheran Church
4400 Central St.
Sioux City, IA 51108
Electronic Service Requested

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Like us on Facebook-<http://www.facebook.com/CalvaryLeeds>

Bringing Faith, Hope, & Strength to All Christ's People

Senior Youth Gathering – October 5-6

The registration link is live and can be found on the flyer included in The August Messenger and on our District website.

Cost: \$85 for one night, \$115 for 2 nights

Registration deadline: September 5

Registration Check-in

- Friday night check-in begins at 7pm
- Saturday morning check-in 8 am-9:15 am; Events begin at 9:30 am
- Weekend ends at 11am on Sunday

Junior Youth Gathering

October 19-20

Sheraton – West Des Moines

Theme: The Great Exchange - Psalm 51

Focus: Confession and Absolution

Registration information is being mailed and is also located on the District website.

Cost: \$175

