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Pastor Tom Vanderbilt
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Colleen DeLanoit
Office Administrator
office@mt-calvary.com

Office hours
M–F 8:00am—12:00 pm
www.mt-calvary.com

Up Coming events!!

Oct. 9 - Ruth Circle mtg

Oct. 13 - Youth Grds 7 - 12
Lunch w/Pastor

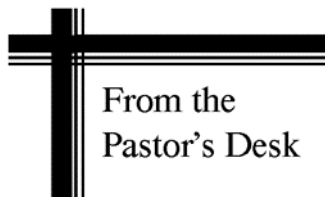
Oct. 18 - 19 Jr. Hi. Youth
gathering

Oct. 26 - Confirmation **10:30**

Living in the **Shadow of the Cross**

Vol. 46 No. 10

October 2025



From the
Pastor's Desk

“The Church is Always Reforming”

In 1517, Martin Luther nailed his Ninety-Five Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, igniting the Reformation and reshaping the Christian world. His bold stand for Scriptural authority and salvation by grace alone through faith alone remains a cornerstone for our congregation. As we reflect on this pivotal moment, Luther's legacy compels us to reach out with renewed vigor, sharing the Gospel in a world hungry for truth and hope.

Luther's Reformation was not merely a theological debate but a call to action. As he looked at the waning faith of the Christian Church in Germany, he didn't just do the same thing he had always done. He challenged the Church to return to the Word of God, emphasizing that salvation is a gift of grace through faith, not works. He engaged the culture of his day with essays and pamphlets explaining the power of the Gospel. He didn't sit back and wait for the world to come to him; he went into the world. He didn't sit back and wait for the world to change, he made change.

For us today, this message is as urgent as ever. In a society marked by division, secularism, and spiritual uncertainty, our commitment to confessional Lutheranism—rooted in the Book of Concord and Luther's teachings—positions us to proclaim Christ's unchanging truth with clarity and compassion. But too often we're content to sit in our church and wait for the world to come to us. It's time to reform our church!

I'm certainly not proposing a move away from Scripture or Confessions! But, in the same way that Luther engaged his community in new ways, we should find new ways to engage our communities. I'm proposing a second look at the people around us and the way that we engage them. What does Indianola--and the other towns from where we come--look like today? New people are moving in all the time, who are they? What do they need? How do we engage with them? How do we love them as Christ as loved us? How do we share the Gospel with them without them coming to our church? How do we share the Gospel with them so that they might eventually come to our church?

Continue > > >

These are the big questions that are before us in this season. They may be new questions for Mt. Calvary, but they're not new to the Church. The Church has had to change how it does ministry multiple times over the past two millennia. While means of ministry and styles of ministry may certainly change, one thing remains the same: The Word of God remains forever. How do we share that Word with others so that they, too, will live and remain forever?

In Christ,

Pastor Tom

Pastor Tom Vanderbilt



Lunch with Pastor: Since Indianola Schools do not have classes on Oct. 13, students from 7th grade to 12th grade are invited to have lunch with Pastor... he's buying! We will be traveling to Giordano's Pizza in West Des Moines because it's Pastor's FAVORITE pizza place EVER. (He'll tell you the story at lunch.) All you've got to do is let Pastor know you want to go. He'll pick you up at your home, take you to lunch, and drop you off when we're done. This will probably take a couple hours. You can call the Church Office or e-mail pastor@mt-calvary.com or text him at 615-557-6802 to let him know you'd like to go. More details will follow as the time gets closer!



October is celebrated as Pastor Appreciation Month.

The celebration was established in 1992 with a mission of uplifting and encouraging pastors, missionaries, and religious workers. The call to honor our church leaders' contributions goes back to the time of Apostle Paul. Why do we recognize this? The

most important reason may be that pastors are gifts of God to the churches (Ephesians 4:11). These sermon makers and life changers are more than educated public speakers, trained counselors, and apt administrators. Pastor Vanderbilt is a gift called to serve us by God. Pastor Vanderbilt works hard during our presence within the Church Property, but also be aware he works hard behind the scenes, at home, in our own homes, and in the community. Please take time this month of October to reflect on his gifts that God has gifted him to deliver to us and our guests. Happy Pastor Appreciation Month Pastor Vanderbilt!

Thanks
be to
God
for those
who serve
In our
Congregation!



Honor those who are your leaders in the Lord's work. They work hard among you and give you spiritual guidance. 1 Thess. 5:12b

October is Ministry Staff Appreciation Month!

It is a good time to show our appreciation for our pastor and ministry staff.

Take time to Pray for ministry staff as well as volunteers who serve at church.

Pray to support and encourage them in this ministry.

Take time to write a simple note and thank them for their willingness to serve.

Let them know their efforts are noticed and appreciated for all they do to further Gods Kingdom.

BBQ Cookoff

Winner of the BBQ Cookoff
David Cooper



2025 Cornhole (Bags) Tournament
Winners!!

Jean Schroeder & Jim Vail



Please let us know

If you know of someone, from our church, who has been hospitalized, please inform the Church Office. Hospitals no longer inform us when one of our members is admitted to their care. Therefore, we need your help for information regarding hospital stays. Pastor Vanderbilt tries to prioritize hospital visits but he doesn't always know when someone has been admitted. We appreciate your help. Thank you!



Mt. Calvary sponsored missionary, Hannah Hester's birthday is on October 4. If you can take a moment to email her and wish her a Happy Birthday I am sure she would appreciate your birthday wishes!

Her email is:
Hannah.hester@lcms.org



HyVee Receipts – For every \$100,000 of Hy Vee receipts we return to Hy Vee we receive a \$300.00 Cashiers check. This week we submitted our 3rd batch of \$100,000 receipts and will soon receive another \$300.00 check. Thank you Hy Vee!!!



The money from the prior 2 submissions were previously donated to charitable organizations in our community. This upcoming check is going to our Discipleship board to help with costs for the Moats Park meals next summer. We are continuing to collect receipts and are looking for suggestions on how to use/where to donate the next check we receive. If you have any suggestions, please let us know. **THANK YOU** Mt Calvary for saving your Hy Vee receipts and putting them in the wood-

Connecting with the Church



Karla Roush	1-Oct
Julie Jordan	1-Oct
David Henline	1-Oct
Vicki Hornback	2-Oct
Cory Vail	2-Oct
August Wright	4-Oct
Robert Gebhart	4-Oct
Tami Bingham	4-Oct
Keela Matthias	5-Oct
Mike Oeffner	10-Oct
Ella Van Dyke	12-Oct
Kraig Daugherty	21-Oct
Erin DeJong	23-Oct
Rich Evenson	25-Oct
Marlene Schoepke	26-Oct
Brandon Bousquet	27-Oct
Ed Chapman	27-Oct
Steve Smith	27-Oct
Jim Priebe	27-Oct
Sherry Herold	28-Oct

Please notify the church office of updates or changes to your address or contact information or any corrections to the Church Directory at office@mt-calvary.com or call 515-961-4321.

THANK YOU!

Colleen DeLanoit
Office Administrator
Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
8:00 am - 12:00 pm

DIRECTORY UPDATES:

Phone # - Steve Smith
- 641-414-2704

- Mark Johnson
515-350-6945

Funeral: Joe Bousquet
9-2-2025



HELPING HAND SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FOOD PANTRY

Dish Soap
Mac & Cheese
Canned Ravioli
Hamburger Helper
Canned Soup
Cereal
Ramen Noodles
Chili Beans
Peanut Butter

**This month Mt. Calvary
Delivered 27
grocery items to support
the Food Pantry.
Thank you for your
continued support!**

Opportunities to Serve



Available dates to donate flowers for the altar on Sunday.

October 5, 2025 - LWML

October 12, 2025 - Don & Joan Van Diepen

October 19, 2025 - Available

October 26, 2025 - Confirmation Board of Ed.

Altar Flowers – Needed: Individuals can sign up to place flowers for the altar or to donate to the “Flower Fund.” Place checks/cash in the offering and mark “Flowers” or you can use the online option to donate. You may sign up for a specific week on the flower calendar located on the Pillar. If you have a special occasion and would like flowers ordered for you and placed on the altar, contact Sherrie Engel. We need two arrangements for the altar total cost \$50.00. Contact Sherrie Engel, 515-490-2333 for more information. There are plenty of Sundays available.



Available dates to host Sunday Morning Treats

October 5, 2025 - LWML

October 12, 2025 - Lisa & Kyle Wiese

October 19, 2025 - Discipleship

October 26, 2025 - Reception for Confirmands



Available dates to Host a Mid-Week Meal

Oct. 1, 2025 - LWML - Tatertot casserole

Oct. 8, 2025 - Available

Oct. 15, 2025 - Available

Oct. 22, 2025 - Available

Oct. 29, 2025 - Available

We are needing help preparing our Wednesday night, Midweek meals. If you are willing to help please sign up on the signup sheet on the pillar in the fellowship hall. We offer financial assistance to anyone willing to prepare the meal. Everyone is welcome to attend our Wednesday night meals!

LWML Fall Rally

Please join us for fellowship and Bible Study



Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9

Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church
5615 SW 14th Street Des Moines
Saturday October 18, 2025
Registration 8:30 am
Light Breakfast 8:45 am-9:15 am
Registration Fee \$6.00

Ingathering: Bidwell Riverside Food Pantry:
Laundry detergent,
soap,
shampoo,
Dawn Dish soap,
diapers size 4,5,6,
canned fruit,
peanut butter.



Thank you for your ongoing support of our mission projects!

LWML Sunday

LWML Sunday will be celebrated on October 5th. The large mite box will be available for anyone wanting to contribute your change to support the various district and national LWML mission projects worldwide.

Don't forget to wear your purple!

Bake Sale

LWML will be hosting a bake sale, Sunday, October 5th, between services. Proceeds from the sale will help replenish the account so LWML can continue to donate to wonderful charities. In the past year, LWML has contributed to the LAMP Mission trip, Youth convention fund, Lutheran Bible Translators, Hope Ministries Women and Children's Center, Heal House, Harvest Academy, the Mock Family missionaries and Operation Christmas. Please help support the great work of the LWML.

If you wish to donate baked goods to the sale, please bring items already packaged.

LWML Fall Rally

The Des Moines East Zone Fall Rally will be held Saturday, October 18th at Peace Lutheran Church, 5615 SW 14th Street, Des Moines, Iowa. Registration starts at 8:30 am and a light breakfast starts at 8:45. The Rally starts at 9:15 a.m. Registration fee is \$6. If you have never attended a rally and want to see what it's all about, please join us for a morning of fellowship with other ladies from the zone.



Upcoming Events:

LWML Sunday and bake sale, October 5

Fall Rally Saturday, October 18 at Peace Lutheran Church, Des Moines.

Fall quarterly meeting, Monday, October 27th at 6:30 pm.

All women are invited and encouraged to attend the events. See you there!

THE CONGREGATIONS OF THE EAST AND WEST
DES MOINES CIRCUITS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO:

REFORMATION VESPERS OCTOBER 26TH, 2025 4:00 P.M.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
3223 UNIVERSITY AVE DES MOINES

4:00pm

The Order of Vespers with musical
and choral accompaniment.
We welcome the Rev. Christopher Maronde
as our guest preacher.

5:15pm

Soup Dinner in the Trinity Gymnasium.
Please bring a soup or side for the potluck.

6:00pm

Presentation from Pastor Maronde on classical
Lutheran Education. Rev. Maronde serves on the
Board of Regents for Luther Classical College located
in Casper, Wyoming.

The evening's offering will go to benefit Luther
Classical College,
visit www.lutherclassical.org to learn more.

Contact Trinity if you plan to bring food to share or
would like to sing in the Reformation Circuit choir:
515-279-3609.



Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church

Council Meeting

August 18, 2025

Attendance: Pastor Vanderbilt, Ken Tague, Jake Hermanson, David Cormeny, Ed Chapman, JoAnn Chapman, Mary Barkley, Terry Pauling, Natasha Cooper, Jen Olson

Ken called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM.

Pastor opened with prayer.

Jen motioned to pass July 2025' Church Council minutes. Mary seconded the motion. The motion was passed with unanimous vote.

Pastor Report- (See Email Attachment)

-With Aaron gone, we must realize that we cannot do the many things we did before. However, the choice few things we can handle we can do even better.

-Jethro had a very good relationship with Moses.

-Jethro noticed that Moses was taking all the responsibly of talking to everyone and Moses was being worn down. Moses was too close to the problem to see what was happening.

-Jethro suggested putting one person above 1000, one above 100, one over 50, and one above ten. Those leaders can then report to Moses.

-Finally, let's work on good form and be in good alignment when the moment comes to do more great things.

-Natasha questioned if there was a better way of communicating amongst the Council.

-Possible Executive Council to expedite decisions

-Different technologies (Outlook Calendar) for scheduling events

DCE Replacement (See Pastor's Attachment)

-Options were presented in front of Church Council. We would like to discuss this with the congregation.

Elder's Report- Jake (See Email Attachment)

-Steve Hague has stepped down from the Elder's Council. Jake motioned to accept Mike Oeffner into the vacancy. Mary seconded the motion. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

-Council would like to thank Sebastian Cooper for performing the custodial duties. He's done a fantastic job. Jake is in conversation with congregation members to see if they would like to help.

-Elders would like to have time to see if any volunteers come forward. If not, they would like to discuss with the congregation in November to discuss Custodial Services. With that said, it will be tabled for another time.

Financial Report- Linda (See Email Attachment)

-Jake motioned to approve July 2025's Financial Report. Jen seconded the motion. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report- Mary Barkley (See Email Attachment)

-Chad did not receive the quarterly update on the LCMS fund. There was growth of \$44,060.

-Jake motioned to approve June 2025's Treasurer's Report. Terry seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

-We received word the St. Michael's will be issuing a partial reimbursement for Aaron's monthly expenditures.

-Notice that stamps have increased to \$0.76. Include this in estimating your yearly budget.

-Board of Education paid double the amount for Outreach/Advertising. Next month's dues have already been paid.

-There was a glitch in the hotel's cost during the National Youth Group event. Amanda had to use approximately \$2400 on her personal card. If the hotel does not rectify the error, Youth Funds will cover Amanda's expenses.

-Chad has cancelled his church bank card. Aaron's card has been cancelled as well. Those that have an active card are Pastor Tom, Mary, and Terry.

-Chad would still like to be involved with LCMS / LCEF accounts.

-Jen motioned for Mary to be added to all church accounts. Terry seconded the motion. Motion was passed with unanimous vote.

-JoAnn suggested doing winter meals. There may be a conflict with Life classes and safety. Discussion has been tabled for a later time.

-Van maintenance does not show it, but there was an expense to fixing the back door's child lock. It will be added to next month's report.

-Mary will be looking to verify the amount in the Designated Fund and the wishes of the donors.

- Terry motioned to pass July 2025's Treasurer's Report. Natasha seconded the motion. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.
- Natasha motioned to reinvest %4 for 4 months into our \$25,000 CD. Also, we would cash out our \$55,000 CD. Ed seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Education Report- N/A

Evangelism Report- N/A

Discipleship Report- Ed and JoAnn Chapman (See Email Attachments)

Worship Report- Jen Olson (See Email Attachment)

Youth Report- Natasha Cooper (See Email Attachments)

Records Report- David Cormeny (See Email Attachments)

Stewardship Report-N/A (See Email Attachments)

Property Report- Terry Pauling (See Email Attachments)

- There is a remaining balance of approximately \$25,000 for the parking lot.

New Business

- Please begin your planning for our 2026 Church Council budgets.

Having no further business, a motion to adjourn was offered by Terry, a second by Ed. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,
David Cormeny



ELDER CARE LIST

If your last name begins

With the letter:

Your Elder is

A – D	Brad Rodemeyer	515-669-3108
E – H	David Cooper	515-971-3197
I – L	Steve Smith	641-414-2704
M - Q	Mike Oeffner	712-579-2586
R – U	David Jordan	515-371-3360
V – Z	Jake Hermanson	515-205-9117

What's Happening with the Youth?

Over the next year, we will be structuring the Youth Ministry at Mt. Calvary a bit differently. After hearing from parents, through a survey sent out in August, we think the below schedule provides opportunities for our youth to engage, dig into scripture, and serve. For the quarterly and special activities (like the gatherings), we would love some parental help. For information or with questions, contact either Natasha Cooper or Sara Vanderbilt.

High School - Regular, weekly activities

- Sunday morning - Sunday School (if we have enough teachers, we can offer a HS-specific class - if not, they can either attend with the younger kids or go to the adult class)
- Wednesday night during LIFE (6ish - 7:30ish) - HS Bible study

Middle School - Regular, weekly activities

- Sunday morning - Sunday School
- Wednesday night during LIFE - Pastor and I will do some fellowship/game nights & some service nights with all the classes (including HS)

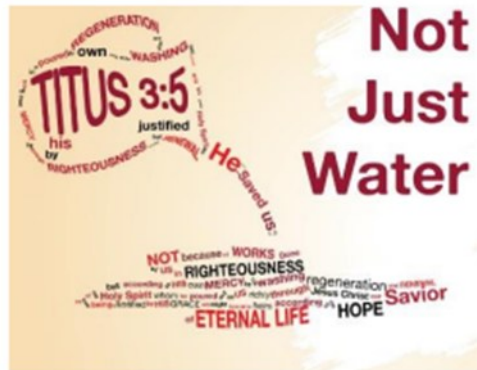
Quarterly

- We will schedule one activity per quarter for MS and HS youth, like bowling, Sky Zone, Christmas party, etc.

Special activities

- Junior Youth Gathering (grades 6-8) - October 18-19
- Senior Youth Gathering (grades 9-12) - November 21-23
- Egg my Yard & Easter Breakfast
- Youth Week at Okoboji – July 2026
- Winter gathering with other area churches

Looking ahead . . . Fall Youth events.....



Junior Youth Gathering
Dean - Pastor Nick Thackery
Theme – “Not Just Water” (Titus 3:5)
October 18-19
Sheraton, West Des Moines
Cost \$175



Confirmation Sunday — Reformation Sunday
October 26, 2025
Youth being confirmed at the 10:30 service are

Isabella Allen
Sydney Jackson
Ethan Loux
Rachel Sickles

Noah Allen
Hunter Koenig
Kenna Roan
Carson Vail

Senior Youth Gathering
Dean - Pastor Alex Slotter
Theme – “God’s Calling Your Life” (Ephesians 2:10)
November 21-23
Holiday Inn at the Airport, Des Moines
Cost \$250



			SERVING IN WORSHIP			
Date	Accolytes	Greeters	Ushers	Elders	Readers	Counters
5-Oct	E Kenna Roan	Jo Pulse & Jean Schroeder	Jerry Ohnemus & Steve Roush	David Cooper	Jean Schroeder	
	L Izzy Allen	Kyle & Lisa Wiese	Becky Hammar & Anita Blonigan	Mike Oeffner	Erin DeJong	Gene & Melinda Grimm
12-Oct	E: Blake Bingham	Brad & Nancy Rodemeyer	Mark & Diane Johnson	Steve Smith	Terry Pauling	
	L: Rachel Sickles	Julie Jordan	Kyle Wiese &	Jake Hermanson	Bill Engel	Dave & Julie Jordan
19-Oct	E: Hunter Koenig	Mark & Diane Johnson	Paul Ophus & Terry Pauling	Brad Rodemeyer	Melinda Grimm	
	L: Anna Sickels	Kyle & Lisa Wiese	Kraig & Julie Daugherty	Dave Jordan	Jill Sickels	Mike & Jen Olson
26-Oct	E: William Griffith, Sr.	Steve & Karla Roush	Bill Sponsler & Andy Bakke	David Cooper	Caroline Koenig	
	L: Kira Cawthorn	Nancy Hauge	Steve Hauge &	Mike Oeffner	Charlotte Weaklend	Mike & Emily Oeffner
2-Nov	E Blake & Gia Bingham	Bill & Becky Sponsler	Steve Roush & Bud Bohannon	Steve Smith	Jeret Koenig	
	L Anna Sickels & Jocelyn Cawthorn	Dave & Judy Zwanziger	Becky Hammar & Anita Blonigan	Jake Hermanson	Erin DeJong	Gene & Melinda Grimm
	Thank you for serving. If you are unable to serve please find someone who can!					

October 2025

October 2025							November 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
5	6	7	1	2	3	4	2	3	4	5	6	7	1
12	13	14	8	9	10	11	9	10	11	12	13	14	8
19	20	21	15	16	17	18	16	17	18	19	20	21	15
26	27	28	22	23	24	25	23	24	25	26	27	28	22
			29	30	31		30						29

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Sep 28	29	30	Oct 1 <div>5:30pm Midweek Meal</div> <div>6:00pm L.I.F.E. Classes</div> <div>6:30pm CHOIR PRACTICE</div>	2 <div>6:30pm Bible Study: Christians in a woke world</div>	3	4
5 <div>LWML Sunday</div> <div>8:00am Traditional</div> <div>9:15am Sunday School and Bible Class</div> <div>10:30am Blended</div>	6 <div>12:00pm Men's Bible Study</div> <div>6:00pm Worship Board Meeting</div>	7 <div>9:00am Textile Tuesday</div>	8 <div>5:30pm Midweek Meal</div> <div>6:00pm L.I.F.E. Classes</div> <div>6:30pm CHOIR PRACTICE</div>	9 <div>10:00am Ruth Circle Meeting</div> <div>6:30pm Bible Study: Christians in a woke world</div>	10	11
12 <div>8:00am Traditional</div> <div>9:15am Sunday School and Bible Class</div> <div>10:30am Blended</div>	13 <div>12:00pm Men's Bible Study</div> <div>6:00pm Board of Educa. Mtg.</div> <div>7:00pm 4-H Meeting</div>	14 <div>9:00am Textile Tuesday</div>	15 <div>5:30pm Midweek Meal</div> <div>6:00pm L.I.F.E. Classes</div> <div>6:30pm CHOIR PRACTICE</div>	16 <div>6:30pm Bible Study: Christians in a woke world</div>	17	18 <div>Jr. Hi, Youth Retreat -Sherat</div>
19 <div>Jr. Hi, Youth Retreat -Sherat</div> <div>8:00am Traditional</div> <div>9:15am Sunday School and Bible Class</div> <div>10:30am Blended</div>	20 <div>12:00pm Men's Bible Study</div> <div>6:00pm Church Council Meeting</div>	21 <div>9:00am Textile Tuesday</div>	22 <div>5:30pm Midweek Meal</div> <div>6:00pm L.I.F.E. Classes</div> <div>6:30pm CHOIR PRACTICE</div>	23 <div>6:30pm Bible Study: Christians in a woke world</div>	24	25
26 <div>8:00am Traditional</div> <div>9:15am Sunday School and Bible Class</div> <div>10:30am Blended</div>	27 <div>12:00pm Men's Bible Study</div> <div>6:00pm Elders Meeting</div>	28 <div>9:00am Textile Tuesday</div>	29 <div>5:30pm Midweek Meal</div> <div>6:00pm L.I.F.E. Classes</div> <div>6:30pm CHOIR PRACTICE</div>	30 <div>6:30pm Bible Study: Christians in a woke world</div>	31	Nov 1