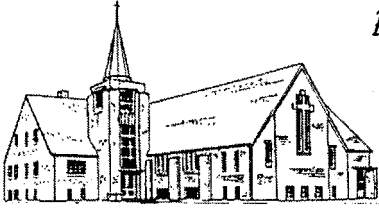


# Faith and Our Savior's Lutheran Churches ELCA

## Calamus Lutheran Parish

P.O. Box 116 Calamus, IA 52729 Phone (563) 246-2622  
Pastor Sarah E.M. Kretzmann



Faith Lutheran  
505 2nd Street



Our Savior's  
2589 190th Avenue

Volume 26

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Number 6

### Pastor Writes



It never occurred to me that one of my sons might be a Jehovah's Witness.

In the entire span of possibilities regarding the future of my three sons, I have entertained the following possible scenarios: academia, the fine arts, the culinary arts, authorship, the ministry, science, law enforcement/criminals...but never had it dawned on me that one might turn up as a JW.

Until I got a call from our elementary school on October 31, 2012. Apparently, my middle son had gone to the principal's office *voluntarily*. It seems one of his fellow students is a Jehovah's Witness and regularly goes to the office during class holiday parties, because her religion forbids her to participate. This has greatly disturbed my son on prior occasions. But this time, rather than simply watch her leave the room as the class Halloween party began, he decided to take her side. So he walked with her to the office, and calmly listened to the reasons why he should return to his classroom, since his religion didn't prevent such festivities. Still, he politely refused, preferring instead to sit with his classmate and color pictures.

That is when I received the phone call from the school, and when I asked to speak with my son, he explained, "Mom, if she has to sit here all alone, I think I need to sit here, too." He agreeably took an unexcused absence for the afternoon, with no protest or punishment on my part. His decision showed remarkable depth of character and empathy for those who are marginalized.

I can think of no better image than this to illustrate the kind of love that Jesus embodies. Jesus seeks out those who are on the fringes of society, the ones who always seem to find themselves on the outside, and sits down next to them, eats with them, listens to them, loves them. Think of the ones he sought out in the New Testament—the tax

collectors, the prostitutes, the demon-possessed, the diseased, the dead. My son's aligning himself with his classmate, even if it meant taking a demerit for it, was a brave move in showing the kind of love Jesus has for the outsider.

For whenever we draw a line between ourselves and an outsider, Jesus takes the side of the outsider.

If you are wanting to listen to a fascinating sermon on this, I commend to you a pastor by the name of Greg Boyd, who serves Woodland Hills Christian Church in St. Paul, Minnesota. Find him on YouTube, the video entitled "Gay Marriage Amendment." I realize by even naming the title, several of you might have suddenly put this article down...but I encourage you to give it a chance. Because in it, Pr. Boyd applies the New Testament ideas of judgment to issues such as—but not limited to—homosexuality. I am not asking you to be convinced one way or the other, because we all know the ELCA has room for our most conservative and our most liberal members, but I am simply asking you to give his sermon a chance. Like it, hate it—whatever. Just give it a listen. It's a half hour. You've listened to far worse stuff for a lot longer than that! (not my sermons, of course!) If you do not have access to a computer and would like to view Pr. Boyd's sermon, please contact me.

Pr. Boyd calls on Jesus' Sermon on the Mount (one of my all-time favorite sections of scripture) in order to hold us accountable for those times in life when we judge others, but also to strengthen us in those times when we find the fingers pointing at us. Because, as we all know, the judges always one day end up being judged themselves. One day we point our finger at someone; the next day we find them pointing their  
(Continued on following page)

*(Continued from front page)*

finger right back at us. To what end? This is not Christianity. Jesus desires mercy, not judgment; if you are skeptical, read the book of Matthew.

I thought of my son sitting in the office, coloring next to his classmate, while the rest of his friends played Pin-The-Tail-On-The-Black-Cat and ate pumpkin cupcakes, and my heart swelled with pride, for he sat exactly where Jesus himself would have chosen to sit...this little boy had more courage to stand in quiet Christian solidarity with an outsider than most grownups I know, including myself.

An unlikely Christian witness, perhaps, with a missing front tooth, a cowlick and a Kool-Aid smile, but a heckuva one, indeed.

*- Pastor Sarah Kretzmann*

## Worship in the Park



### Calamus Community Park

**Sunday, July 14  
10:00 A.M.**

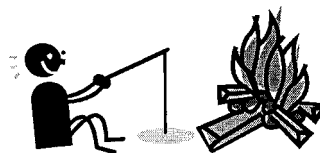
*Bring lawn chairs or blankets  
(Rain Site – CALCO Building)*

There will be no worship services at  
Our Savior's Church or  
Faith Church  
on July 14.

Normal schedule resumes July 21.

**"It is hard to fail,  
but it is worse never to  
have tried to succeed."**

- Theodore Roosevelt



## Fishing, Boating & Cook-Out

**Sunday Afternoon, June 2**

**Doug Bousset's Pond**

**1731 - 280<sup>th</sup> Street, Calamus**



**Fun starts at 4:00 p.m.**

**Supper at 6:00**



Bring something to grill, a dish to share  
and something to drink,  
as well as a lawn chair -

If you have kids you might want to bring  
swim suits or clothes to change into and  
anyone can bring their fishing poles  
and bait.

*(Directions to the pond: Turn left from OS parking  
lot on to Y52/190th Avenue; turn right on first road  
to the right – 265<sup>th</sup> Street; turn left on first road to  
the left – 178<sup>th</sup> Ave; turn right on first road to right  
– 280<sup>th</sup> Street – pond on left side of road)*

**July/August Newsletter Items  
Due June 20, please.  
Thanks for your cooperation!**

**Noisy Offering Collected  
June 16**



Offering goes to Messiah Lutheran in Parlin,  
New Jersey, devastated by Hurricane Sandy.



## At the May Council Meetings

### Joint Council:

➤ Pastor reported she has spent a great deal of time with couples preparing for marriage; Vicar Michelle's last day of internship will be July 14; Pastor participated in two retreats and will attend the Synod Assembly on May 30;

➤ Worship Committee: Our Savior's 8:00 worship on May 26 will be held in the chapel;

➤ Stewardship/Christian Outreach: the church picnic will be held at Boussetot's pond; a swimming party will be held in DeWitt in August and a golf outing will be held in September at Wapsi Oaks;

➤ Education Committee: VBS set-up will be on May 27 at 6:30 p.m. – the VBS offering will be used to purchase items for Busy Bags which will be sent to the children attending Messiah Lutheran in New Jersey, a church affected by Hurricane Sandy;

➤ The photo directory will be loaded onto the church website and will be accessed by password – it may also be sent to individuals via email upon request; hard copies will be provided as needed or upon request; future photo and contact information will be updated on an annual basis.

### Faith Council:

➤ Financial reports were approved with a designated balance of \$7,090.13 and a working balance of \$8,165.49;

➤ Driveway repair and review of church cleaning has been completed;

➤ \$25 was donated to the Calamus Public Library – donation will be used to offset publishing costs of the community newsletter which will include information about Faith Church;

➤ Transfer of membership of Amber Berger and Meagan Berger to Faith Church was accepted;

➤ Donations received to date and designated to the church in New Jersey will be sent due to immediate need – the combined donation of Our Savior's and Faith is \$1,100.

### Our Savior's Council:

➤ Financial reports were accepted with a balance of \$17,186.57;

➤ Updating of cemetery records are continuing;

➤ Parsonage roof will be evaluated for repair.

### Our Savior's Monthly Financial Report

April 2013

Beginning Balance.....	\$ 17,808.84
Deposits .....	\$ 5,023.88
Disbursements.....	\$ 5,646.15
Ending Balance .....	\$17,186.57



Happy 70th Anniversary,  
Junior & Louise  
Homrighausen  
on June 27!

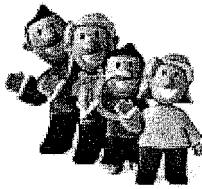
**Hey, Listen Up -  
It's Basket Time Again!**



As your new basket raffle chairwoman, I am just going to come out and say we all need to get organized now – not one week before the raffle. It is not fair or kind to put that much workload wrapping and arranging baskets on us few volunteers at the last minute. I do not mind wrapping these myself (I really enjoy doing the wrapping) between now and June – you can drop off your assembled or unassembled baskets at the church office and Jeannene will contact me to pick them up. I also have a huge list of basket ideas documented, call me early mornings or evenings and I can assign ideas for you. Let's have a great display of baskets again this year!

Thank you – Dawn Dosland 563-212-3352

## News About Our People



Steven Berger and Meagan Berger were welcomed into the membership of Faith Lutheran Church on May 5.



Zander James, son of Steven Berger and Amber Berger, through Holy Baptism, was welcomed into the family of God and the membership of Faith Lutheran Church on May 5. Zander's sponsors were Andrew Berger and Andrew Hesse.



A funeral service was held for Judy Paulsen on May 6 at Faith Lutheran Church. Judy is the mother of Deb Tulley.



Olivia Lynn, daughter of Eric and Brittany Hoffmann, through Holy Baptism, was welcomed into the family of God and the membership of Faith Lutheran Church on May 12. Olivia's sponsors were Fred and Emily Swihart.



Amber Berger was welcomed into the membership of Faith Lutheran on May 16.



Luke Shelton and Jessica Muhl were joined in marriage on May 18 at Faith Lutheran Church.




Katie Banowetz, daughter of Larry and Sharyl Banowetz, Caleb Carpenter, son of Brad Carpenter and Kristina Schiemann, Madison Eschbach, daughter of Kenneth and Theresa Eschbach, Noah Gronewold, son of Jim and Julie Gronewold, and Ki Sosa, son of Shelley Weiss and Merqui Manon-Sosa affirmed their baptism vows at Faith Lutheran Church on May 19.



Alexander Felix, son of Grant and Katrina Harkness, through Holy Baptism, was welcomed into the family of God and the membership of Faith Lutheran Church on May 26. Alexander's sponsors were Jason Harkness and Kristina O'Quinn.



Women of the  
**ELCA** 

### All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

## "Hungry Hearts"

Matthew 14:16

Mark 6:37

Luke 9:13



## Combined Circles

Friday, June 21, 9:30 a.m.



Hostess: Marsha Witte

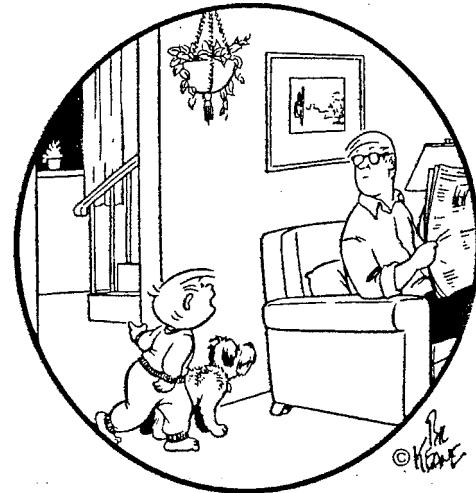
1730 Wishing Well Lane, DeWitt

Leader: Jeannene Boussetot



Following Bible Study, Marsha will be serving lunch – you need not bring anything. Please notify the church office (246-2622) or [clparish@fbcom.net](mailto:clparish@fbcom.net) if you plan to attend so Marsha will know how many to plan for.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil and Jeff Keane



"I'm gonna say my prayers, Daddy.  
Is there anything you want?"

from [JoyfulNoiseletter.com](http://JoyfulNoiseletter.com)  
Reprinted with permission of Bil Keane

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

June 1: Cameron Garrett  
 June 2: Alicia Rock  
           Megan Will  
           Haley Sullivan  
 June 3: Doug Henning  
           Makenna Christensen  
 June 4: Ryan Rock  
           Karen Whitman  
           Amber Claussen  
 June 5: Shirley Ferguson  
           Larry Hayes  
           Eric Sands  
 June 6: Benjamin Carstensen  
           Noah Gronewold  
 June 7: Sheri Fitzgerald  
 June 8: Shawn O'Donnell  
           Tara Dillon  
 June 9: Fred Wilhelm  
           Daniel Will  
 June 10: Ashley Steffens  
           Caleb Carpenter  
 June 11: Joshua Gronewold  
 June 15: Amy Wilhelm  
           Don Boussetot  
           Lonny Sievers  
 June 17: Brian Boussetot  
           Barb Johnson  
           Stephanie Maske  
 June 20: Leonard Olson  
           Caleb Banowetz  
 June 21: Harold Olson  
           Gary Schutt  
           Christian Montover  
 June 22: Mark Hesse  
           Jim Lahann  
 June 23: Shane Glover  
           Michael McDevitt  
           Nicole Easterday  
 June 24: Janice Berger  
 June 25: Ellen Mueller  
 June 26: Courtney McMahan  
           Barbara Nunn  
           Lawson Perrone  
 June 27: Sherri Boussetot  
 June 29: Tait Steines  
 June 30: Pastor Solveig Zamzow  
           Deb Detlefs

♥

June 3: Larry & Brenda Hayes  
           Holly & Robert Dwyer

          Doug & Meryne Henning  
 June 5: Ashlee & Steve Trafford  
 June 7: Kenneth & Theresa Eschbach  
           Larry & Marilyn Schau  
           Dick & Bobbi Hesse  
 June 11: Eric & Kari Myrold  
 June 15: Keith & Marilyn Steward  
 June 16: Blaine & Kayla Henning  
           Herb & Diane Wilhelm  
 June 18: Art & Sharon Boussetot  
 June 20: Adam & Rebecca Wilhelm  
 June 21: Pr. Marv & Bev Robeck  
 June 22: Kevin & Kim Miller  
 June 27: Junior & Louise Homrighausen  
 June 29: Gary & Ruth Braet

### Things God Won't Ask

- ◆ God won't ask what kind of car we drove,  
*He'll ask how many people we drove who didn't have transportation.*
- ◆ God won't ask the square footage of our house,  
*He'll ask how many people we've welcomed into our home.*
- ◆ God won't ask about the clothes we had in our closet,  
*He'll ask how many we helped to clothe.*
- ◆ God won't ask what our highest salary was,  
*He'll ask if we compromised our character to obtain it.*
- ◆ God won't ask what our job title was,  
*He'll ask if we performed our job to the best of our ability.*
- ◆ God won't ask in what neighborhood we lived,  
*He'll ask how we treated our neighbor.*
- ◆ God won't ask about the color of our skin,  
*He'll ask about the content of our character.*

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE  
**RESPONDING TO U.S. TORNADOES**

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**MAY 2013**

[www.ELCA.org/disaster](http://www.ELCA.org/disaster)

A two-mile-wide tornado ripped through Moore, Okla., claiming many lives and leaving behind a devastating trail of destruction. Plaza Towers Elementary School stood right in the path of the storm's 166-200 mph winds.

the immediate and long-term needs of those affected by the tornadoes. We already know it will be a long road to recovery, and your gifts are needed now to begin coordinating volunteers, rebuilding homes and offering spiritual and emotional care to those in need.

Many homes are damaged or destroyed as tornadoes touched down throughout Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas, Illinois and Iowa. As strong winds and warm fronts continue to move across the nation, the threat for future tornado outbreaks is looming.

**Gifts designated to "U.S. Tornadoes" through Lutheran Disaster Response will be used entirely – 100 percent – to help survivors of tornadoes rebuild their lives and livelihoods.** Our church is reaching out in response to these devastating storms and assessing the needs – working together for as long as it takes. Thank you for your gifts, your prayers and your partnership.

Your help is needed to bring hope to our sisters and brothers in need. Lutheran Disaster Response affiliates are already on the ground, assessing

.....  
**Yes, I want to help!**

- Lutheran Disaster Response: *U.S. Tornadoes*                      \$ \_\_\_\_\_ DDG0020
- Lutheran Disaster Response: *Where Needed Most*                      \$ \_\_\_\_\_ DDG0010

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Give through your congregation or send your check directly to:  
**Lutheran Disaster Response, 39330 Treasury Center, Chicago, IL 60694-9300**  
*write "U.S. Tornadoes" or "Where Needed Most" on your check's memo line.*



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
 God's work. Our hands.

## MINISTERS FOR JUNE 2013

### FAITH

#### Ushers:

Hal Shelton  
Eric Sands  
Diane Sievers  
Lonnie Sievers

#### Acolytes:

Kale Whitman  
Karragan Whitman

#### Altar Ministry:

Doreen Henning  
Ashley Steffens

#### Communion Assistant:

Andrea Shelton

#### Greeter:

June 2: Diane Wilhelm  
June 9: Mark Witte  
June 16: Terri Boussetot  
June 23: Rusty Porth  
June 30: Ashley Steffens

#### Lector:

June 2: Mark Witte  
June 9: Kevin Henning  
June 16: Dirk Braet  
June 23: Andrea Shelton  
June 30: Marsha Witte

### OUR SAVIOR'S

#### Ushers:

Mark Olson  
Dan Burke  
Sherry Lahann  
Tait Steines

#### Acolyte:

Riley Bruns

#### Communion Assistant:

Deb Detlefs

#### Lector:

June 2: Paul Olson  
June 9: Mark Olson  
June 16: David Olson  
June 23: Amy Glover  
June 30: Dion Olson

#### Cleaners

Darin & Skye Doerscher  
Paul and Carla Olson

#### Christian, Jacob & Philip Caregivers

June 2: Rod/Robin Costello-Smith  
June 9: Nate  
June 16: Mark & Marsha Witte  
June 23: Nate  
June 30: Ruth Braet

**If You Cannot Do Your Assigned Task On That Particular Day, It Is Your Responsibility To Trade With Someone Or To Find Your Own Substitute And Notify The Church Office Of The Change.**

### **A Prayer Petition for the People of Oklahoma, from Bishop Girlinghouse (Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod):**

God of steadfast love, though destructive winds swirl around us, shattering our lives, we believe and trust that you are with us, just as you have always walked with your people through storm and strife. Today we pray for the people of Carney, Little Axe, Shawnee, Newcastle and Moore, Oklahoma and all those affected by tornadoes this past week. Use us to surround them with your love, compassion and mercy. Provide them with caregivers and friends to accompany them on the long road to recovery. Be with all those who weep and mourn during these days, and comfort them with your hope and the promise of resurrection. We pray all these things in the name of Jesus Christ, who gave his life so that we might know that you have the power to bring life from death.

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

# JUNE 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Synod Assembly at Lutheran Church of Hope/Des Moines
2 8:00 Worship OS 9:30 Worship F 4:00 Church Picnic at Doug Boussetot Pond	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 8:00 Worship OS 9:30 Worship F	10	11 7:00 Committee Night OS	12	13 6:00 Worship Committee OS 7:30 Joint Council OS	14	15
16 8:00 Worship OS 9:30 Worship F	17	18	19	20 9:30 Combined Circles H-Marsha Witte L-Jeannene B	21	22
23 8:00 Worship OS 9:30 Worship F ----- 30 8:00 Worship OS 9:30 Worship F	24	25	26	27	28	29