



Faith
Lutheran Church
505-2nd Street

**Faith and Our Savior's
Lutheran Churches (ELCA)
Calamus Lutheran Parish**

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Our Savior's
Lutheran Church
2589-190th
Avenue

Volume 36

January 2023

Number 1

Pastor's View

Dear Siblings in Christ,

A very Happy New Year to you all! I hope your Christmas and New Year's celebrations have been meaningful reminders of God's presence with us and the whole world when God became Immanuel in Jesus Christ.

When I was a kid I used to imagine what my life would look like in 5, 10, 20 years and so on. If you had asked me at 16 what I thought my life would look like at 26 going on 27, there are some noticeable differences from what actually happened. At 16, I figured in 10 or 11 years I would have graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and married a Wisconsin farmer, either someone from back home or someone I met in college. I would be a grade school teacher, and my spouse and I would have at least one child on the way, or maybe already have one at home. I would be a faithful member of our local ELCA congregation, serving as a Sunday School teacher or on some other committee, and I would try to be as involved in our community as I could.

As you can see... God had a few other ideas in mind than what I had when I was 16, and I'm sure that this is true for many of you as well. In this time of the new year when we can get caught up in the buzz of new year's resolutions and trying to make plans for our futures, I pray that each of us would leave space for God to surprise us and for us to spend time discerning who God is calling you to be. Sometimes the person God is calling you to be is not always the one you plan for or want, but the person God is calling you to be is the person that God claimed in the waters of Baptism. When you were baptized, God claimed you as God's own through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, the Holy Spirit came upon you, and the gifts that God gave you at birth were promised to be used for the work of the Gospel. This gospel message of the love that God has for the world in Jesus Christ will take us to people and places that we never imagined, and yet, it will always be right where we need to be.

Thanks be to God that our plans do not always turn out as we had predicted and that God's call on our lives is more beautiful and wilder than what we can imagine on our own.

May you feel the nudge of the Holy Spirit calling you deeper into whom God created you to be in Jesus this day and always.

In Christ's Peace,
Pastor Leah

Sunday, January 1
One Worship Service Only!
9:00 a.m. at Faith
No Sunday School

Youth Schedule
Wednesdays - January 11, 18, 25

*** Confirmation Classes ***

6:00 p.m. at Faith

*** Bible Jam ***

7:00 p.m. at Faith

Junior high and high school students are welcome to come for food, faith, fellowship, and fun!

*** High School Bible Study ***

8:30-9:30 p.m. at Faith

Pastor Leah meets with 11th and 12th grade students.

Naomi Circle Bible Study

Wednesday, January 11
10:00 a.m. at Marsha Witte's home



“The Ten Commandments”
by Rev. Christa von Zychlin

January/February issue of *Gather* magazine

Councils/Committees Meeting

Brainstorming session to plan for 2023

9:00-11:00 am Saturday, January 28, at Our Savior's

Annual Reports

Financial reports, budgets, and audit reports for the congregations are due in the church office by Monday, January 16, 2023.

~ Annual Meetings ~

Sunday, January 29, 2023

following 8:00 worship at Our Savior's
and 10:30 worship at Faith

Noisy Offering – Sunday, January 15

The 2023 recipient will be chosen at the Councils/Committees Meeting on January 28



December Meetings

~ Joint Council ~

Present

Our Savior's: Mary Timmerman, Amy Glover, Deb Detlefs, and Jason Bousselot.

Faith: Mark Witte, Ashley Steffens, and Brian Tulley.

Hal Shelton joined by phone.

God Squad

- Bake sale raised enough to be able to spend \$100 per child on Christmas gifts for 10 Angel Tree recipients.
- Christmas Party at Our Savior's on Wednesday, December 14.
- Cookie/Cocoa/Movie Night at the Grau's home on Friday, December 16.
- Planning a dodgeball tournament in January with the church in Wheatland.
- Next youth-led service will be in April or May.
- ELCA Youth Gathering will be July 16-20, 2024, in New Orleans. Theme is “Created to Be.”

Pastor's Report

- Visits and confirmation classes are continuing to go well.
- Advent services are mostly being led by the confirmands.
- Adult class is studying ELCA World Hunger.
- Pastor participated in a review of the ELCA social message which is “Care for Creation.”
- Pastor Leah, Mark Witte, and Mary Timmerman participated in a meeting with Pastor Dan Kuckuk of the SE IA Synod Office. “Walking Together” is intentional conversations with pastors, council presidents, and the synod office. These meetings occur at 3, 6, 9, 12, and 18 months after a pastor starts at a congregation.
- Recent services: Sherry Lahann funeral November 25 at Our Savior's. Marilyn Malmanger funeral December 3 at Our Savior's.
- Pastor will be on vacation December 26-31.

Worship Committee

- Planning to use Holden Evening Prayer service during Lent.

Outreach Committee

- 18 bags of groceries were delivered to the Carroll Assistance Center following the ingathering at the Thanksgiving service.
- Looking forward to the planning meeting on Saturday, January 28, for members of both councils and all committee members.

Feeding the Children

- At the end of 2022, a \$500 grant was received from the Theisen family's "More for Your Community" fund. The grant process was carried out by the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque in partnership with Theisen's Home, Farm, Auto.
- Mark Witte is helping bag the food for Friday delivery to eight Cal/Wheat students.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

~ **Our Savior's** ~

No meeting minutes provided.

~ **Faith Council** ~

Old Business

- Sign out front - Awaiting a quote from Signs Now.
- Leaking windows - Vern Boedeker has agreed to caulk the basement windows.
- Light on east front corner - It is not receiving power. Brian will talk about it with Eric Hoffmann.

New Business

- Plumbing coming into the church - The main shut-off valve is corroded and needs to be replaced. Mike Lacey will assist with the water shut off. The city will also be adding a remote read-out meter. Brian will contact Lowden Plumbing and Heating to get the valve replaced.
- Epic Savings Account - This account has gone dormant. Due to no activity, First Trust will start charging \$5 a month. The account is for students of the parish attending Lutheran colleges. It was decided to deposit \$10 a month to the account until a decision can be made concerning the money in the fund.
- Snow removal - Reed Minor will remove snow from the parking lot and driveway. Brian will talk with Kaiser Sands about removing snow from church sidewalks.

Next Joint Council Meeting

7:00 p.m. Thursday, January 12, at Faith

Councils and Committees Meeting

9:00-11:00 a.m. Saturday, January 28, at Our Savior's

Please submit items for the February newsletter and all financial reports to the church office by Monday, January 16.

Thank you for your cooperation!

To contact **Pastor Leah**, please use her cell phone number:
(262) 914-9392

Special Collection

The parish will be collecting winter wear through January 8. Please bring new (or very gently used) winter coats, hats, gloves, and mittens to Faith and Our Savior's. The items will be given to the Carroll Assistance Center in Wheatland for distribution to those who need something warm to wear this winter.

January 2023

Calamus Lutheran Parish

NOTE: Sunday worship is also online at www.clparish.org

F = Faith Church, OS = Our Savior's Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 New Year's Day One service only! 9:00 Worship – F	2 Church Office Closed	3	4	5	6 Epiphany	7
8 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 Sunday School – F 10:30 Worship – F	9	10	11 Naomi Circle 10:00 am at Marsha Witte's home Confirmation 6:00 pm at Faith Bible Jam 7:00 pm at Faith Education Committee 7:00 pm at Faith HS Bible Study 8:30-9:30 pm at Faith	12 Worship Committee 6:30 pm at Faith Joint Council 7:00 pm at Faith	13	14
15 Noisy Offering 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 Sunday School – F 10:30 Worship – F	16 February newsletter items are due. Financial reports, budgets, and audit reports are due in the church office	17	18 Confirmation Class 6:00 pm at Faith Bible Jam 7:00 pm at Faith HS Bible Study 8:30-9:30 pm at Faith	19	20	21
22 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 Sunday School – F 10:30 Worship – F	23	24	25 Confirmation Class 6:00 pm at Faith Bible Jam 7:00 pm at Faith HS Bible Study 8:30-9:30 pm at Faith	26	27	28 Meeting of Both Councils and All Committees 9:00 – 11:00 at Our Savior's
29 8:00 Worship – OS Our Savior's Annual Meeting No Sunday School 10:30 Worship – F Faith's Annual Meeting	30	31				

MINISTERS for January 2023

If you cannot do your task on the day assigned, it is your responsibility to trade with someone or to find your own substitute and notify the church office of the change.

FAITH CHURCH

Ushers:

Daryl and Doreen Henning

Acolyte:

Tysen Steffens

Altar Ministry:

Diane Christensen

Ushers

Communion Assistant:

Doreen Henning

Lectors:

January 1: Doreen Henning

January 8: Ashley Steffens

January 15: Terri Boussetot

January 22: Dirk Braet

January 29: Marsha Witte

OUR SAVIOR'S CHURCH

Usher:

Neil Holmquist

Acolyte:

Kara Olson

Communion Assistant:

Dan Burke

Lectors:

January 1: Eva and Rachel Burke

January 8: Joe Morehead

January 15: Deb Detlefs

January 22: Joyce McCutcheon

January 29: Dan Burke

Cleaners:

Dan and Cindy Burke