



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

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March 2023

Number 3

Pastor's View

Dear Siblings in Christ,

The adult education class just finished up reading and discussing Dietrich Bonhoeffer's book *Life Together*. We had rich discussion about what community is, how do we live together and with others, and how do we continually try to see others as God sees them. As we wrapped up we discussed "so what do we do with this now?" We read this book, we've had fabulous conversations, but what are we going to do so that our reading and our conversation matters beyond the hour in class on Sundays.

In some ways, our season of Lent is like this. We spend this 40-day season reflecting on our need for God's grace and mercy that comes through the cross of Jesus Christ. Perhaps you give up or add something to your life as a part of a practice of Lent. As a parish we will collect jars of peanut butter. There are so many ways to engage with a Lenten practice of noticing the world around us in a new way and being aware of our need for God's forgiveness. Just as we discussed in adult education the "so what" of reading *Life Together*, I ask you this same question about Lent. So what? How will our lives be different after this season of intentional noticing? The reality is that only you can answer this for yourself, but it is a question I invite you to explore. This is not meant to add to your already long to-do lists, but is meant as an invitation to add depth to our Lenten season because our daily practice of faith matters to this world. This change does not need to be something grandiose and spectacular, indeed it is usually the smallest things known only to us and to God that make the biggest difference.

I pray that this Lenten season brings each of us closer to God, grows our awareness of our need for God's grace and mercy, and reminds us again in new ways of our belovedness through Jesus Christ.

In Christ's Peace, Pastor Leah



Midweek Lenten Services
7:00 p.m. on the Wednesdays of March



A meal precedes each service at 6:00.

March 1 and 8 at Our Savior's
March 15, 22 and 29 at Faith

40 Days of Giving:

Calamus Lutheran Parish will be gathering

40 Jars of Peanut Butter

(chunky or smooth, any size, any brand) for the Carroll Assistance Center in Wheatland during the

40 Days of Lent

Ash Wednesday (FEBRUARY 22) through
Easter Sunday (APRIL 9).

***** Pastor Leah's Maternity Leave *****

If you would be willing to offer the homily or reflection on a Sunday while Pastor is on leave, please let the office or Pastor Leah know by email or a phone call before Thursday, March 16.

People will be asked to bring communion to the homebound members during this time as well. If you are willing to do this, please let the office or Pastor Leah know before March 16.

Youth Schedule for March
Wednesdays - March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29

Confirmation

NO classes in March.
Confirmands will assist with midweek Lenten services.

Bible Jam

7:30 p.m. following midweek Lenten services
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. following Bible Jam
Pastor Leah meets with 11th and 12th grade students.

Bowling

Sunday, March 26, 12:30 p.m. at DeWitt Lanes
Invite a friend and bring a snack to share.
Call Heather at 563-424-0507 if you plan to attend.

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

You are invited to a baby shower!

Who: All members of the parish are invited.
What: A baby shower for the Nilsens
When: Saturday, March 18, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
Where: Faith Lutheran Church fellowship hall
Why: Pastors Leah and Stephen are preparing for their first child, expected at the end of April.
Note: The Nilsens are registered at Target.

Naomi Circle Bible Study
Wednesday, March 8
10:00 a.m. at Marsha Witte's home



"The Ten Commandments: Reviving the Soul"
by Christa Von Zychlin
March/April issue of *Gather* magazine

Noisy Offering – Sunday, March 19
The 2023 recipient is St. Peter Lutheran Church in Ft. Myers Beach, Florida. The church was heavily damaged during Hurricane Ian.

Please submit items for the April newsletter to the church office by Monday, March 20. Thank you!



February Meetings

~ ~ Joint Council ~ ~

Because of inclement weather on the scheduled date, the meeting followed 8:00 worship on February 26.

Several Committees did not meet because of snowy weather on Thursday, February 16.

Present: Pastor Leah Holloway-Nilsen; **Our Savior's:** Jason Boussetot, Deb Detlefs, Amy Glover, Mary Timmerman; **Faith:** Luke Shelton, Ashley Steffens, Brian Tulley, Mark Witte

Pastor's Report

- All committees meeting in January went well.
- Visits and adult education going well.
- Confirmation will be May 21. She will conduct the service.
- Had regular first-year evaluation meeting with synod rep, Mary, and Mark.
- Reviewed personnel and child protection policies for annual synod forms.
- Pulpit supply during her maternity leave is being arranged. Volunteers have stepped forward to cover some worship services and visits to the homebound.
- The church secretary resigned effective Friday, February 3. Met with council presidents Mary and Mark to plan the steps for hiring another secretary. Met with PCC to work out job description, compensation package, and job posting. Several people have volunteered to help with putting together bulletins and newsletters.
- Counseling a couple planning a wedding at Our Savior's on August 12.

God Squad

- Bowling at DeWitt Lanes on Sunday, March 26, at 12:30 p.m.
- Serving Easter breakfast following early service at Our Savior's on April 9.
- Youth-led service will be April 23 at Faith.

Education

- Attendance of children and adults at Sunday School continues to be strong.
- The final day of Sunday School this session will be May 21.
- Continued discussion on 2023 Bible School and Sunday School material for next session.

Outreach

- Faith members of the committee will cover the "Feeding the Children" program through the end of the school year. Rebecca ordered the food for those months. The food will be stored at Faith, eight bags prepared each week for weekend meals, and delivered to C-W Elementary on Fridays.

- During the 40 days of Lent, the parish will collect jars of peanut butter for the Carroll Assistance Center.
- Amy and Deb approached Pastor about having a baby shower. The parish is invited to Faith on Saturday, March 18, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. The Nilsens are registered at Target. Several council members volunteered to help with refreshments and decorations.

PCC

- Met several times to discuss the duties of the secretary, qualifications, hours in the office, pay scale, and benefits.
- Joint council approved the plan and the job will be advertised in *The Observer* on two Wednesdays in March. Interested persons will be asked to call the church office to get directions from Pastor Leah concerning the application process.

Old Business:

- Computers – Ashley made a motion to proceed with the upgrades at a cost of \$825 with a possible additional \$100 if Office 2021 update is needed. Deb seconded. Motion carried.
- Copy Machine vs. Printer – Compared costs of a printer instead of a copy machine, leasing a copy machine, and buying one outright. Mark made a motion to purchase a new copy machine at a cost of \$3,500 up front and an additional \$40 per month to cover parts, labor, cartridges, etc. Amy seconded. Motion carried.
- Noisy Offering – St. Peter Lutheran Church in Ft. Myers Beach, Florida was chosen as the 2023 recipient at the all committees meeting in January. The church was heavily damaged during Hurricane Ian.

New Business:

- Secretary Position – Council reviewed the job description provided by the PCC. Ashley made a motion to approve the secretarial job description. Deb seconded. Motion carried.

~ ~ Our Savior's Council ~ ~

President: Mary Timmerman

Vice President: Amy Glover

Secretary: Dan Burke

Jason Boussetot

Deb Detlefs

Neil Holmquist

Financial Secretary: Cindy Burke

Treasurer: Jason Boussetot

Property and Management Committee:

Brian Boussetot, Bill Morehead, Matt Olson

Cemetery Committee:

Brian Boussetot, Dion Olson

Old Business:

- Old Church – Once the new windows arrive, the contractors will come and do the siding and install the windows.

New Business:

- Directory – Neil offered to do an electronic directory. Jason said the current computer system is not user friendly for that format. Consensus was to create a paper directory. Tabled to next meeting.
- Handicapped Entry/Bathroom Remodel – Mary suggested a handicapped-only entrance on the northwest side with a wheelchair-sized lift. Mary will get a quote. Bathroom remodel could happen at the same time. Need quotes on that project.
- Lenten Meals – served at 6:00 before the 7:00 services on Wednesdays. Council members will bring potluck on March 1. The congregation will be asked to provide potluck on March 8.
- Automatic Vacuum for Sanctuary – Deb moved to proceed with a purchase. Jason seconded. Motion carried. Mary will purchase the vacuum for \$319.

~~ Faith Council ~~

President: Mark Witte
 Vice President: Brian Tulley
 Secretary: Ashley Steffens
 Brittany Hoffmann
 Larry Schau
 Luke Shelton
 Hal Shelton

Financial Secretary: Yale Christensen**Treasurer:** Doreen Henning**Property and Management Committee:**

Dirk Braet, Keith Gasper, Daryl Henning, Larry Schau, Hal Shelton, Luke Shelton, Brian Tulley

Old Business:

- Sign out front – Awaiting a quote from Signs Now.
- Electricity – Eric Hoffmann plans to follow up when his schedule allows.

New Business:

- Election – officers and committee assignments are listed above.
- New Members – Brian moved and Luke seconded a motion to accept Landon and Gabrielle Goettsch into membership.
- Elevator Landing – leaking pipes were found to be causing the problem in the flooring.
- Lenten Meals –Brittany, Luke, Ashley, and Brian will serve soup on March 15; possibly God Squad in charge on March 22; Larry, Hal, and Mark will serve on March 29.

~~ 2023 Joint CLP Committees ~~

(*denotes council member)

Education: Cindy Burke, Eric Hoffmann, Rebecca Shorter, *Ashley Steffens**Outreach:** *Amy Glover, Deb Tulley, Sarah Tulley, *Mark Witte**Worship:** *Jason Boussetot, Terri Boussetot, *Dan Burke, Diane Christensen, *Deb Detlefs, *Brittany Hoffmann, Andrea Shelton, Linda Whitman**PCC (Parish Coordinating Committee):** *Dan Burke, *Deb Detlefs, Pat Grau, *Brittany Hoffmann, Joe Morehead *Mary Timmerman, Deb Tulley, *Mark Witte**Phone numbers for council and committee members are posted at each church.****Next Joint Council Meeting**

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 15, following the midweek Lenten service at Faith.

MINISTERS for March 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:

Yale Christensen
Mitch Christensen

Acolyte:

Kinnick Christensen

Communion Assistant:

Yale Christensen

Lectors:

March 5: Yale Christensen
March 12: Brian Tulley
March 19: Heather Grau
March 26: Peyton Grau

Altar Ministry:

Lonny and Diane Sievers

OUR SAVIOR'S CHURCH

Usher:

Brian Bousselot

Acolyte:

Ryan Olson

Communion Assistant:

Deb Detlefs

Lectors:

March 5: Jason Bousselot
March 12: Melisa Jacobsen
March 19: Mark Olson
March 26: David Burke

Cleaners:

Shane and Amy Glover

March 2023

Calamus Lutheran Parish

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
OS = Our Savior's Church F = Faith Church			1 Meal 6:00 pm - OS Lenten Worship 7:00 at Our Savior's Bible Jam 7:30 pm at OS HS Bible Study 8:30-9:30 pm at OS	2	3	4
5 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 Sunday School – F 10:30 Worship – F Second Sunday in Lent	6	7	8 Naomi Circle 10:00 am at Witte's Meal 6:00pm - OS Lenten Worship 7:00 at Our Savior's Bible Jam 7:30 pm at OS HS Bible Study 8:30-9:30 pm at OS	9	10	11
12 Daylight Saving Time Begins 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 Sunday School – F 10:30 Worship – F Third Sunday in Lent	13	14 NOTE: All committee meetings will follow <u>Wednesday</u> Lenten Service at Faith. Education Committee Outreach Committee Worship Committee Joint Council	15 Meal 6:00 pm - F Lenten Worship 7:00 pm at Faith Bible Jam 7:30 pm at Faith HS Bible Study 8:30-9:30 pm at Faith	16	17	18 Baby Shower for the Nilsens 1:00 – 3:00 pm Faith Church
19 Noisy Offering 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 Sunday School – F 10:30 Worship – F Fourth Sunday in Lent	20 April newsletter items are due in the church office.	21	22 Meal 6:00 pm - F Lenten Worship 7:00 pm at Faith Bible Jam 7:30 pm at Faith HS Bible Study 8:30-9:30 pm at Faith	23	24	25
26 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 Sunday School – F 10:30 Worship – F 12:30 Youth Bowling Fifth Sunday in Lent	27	28	29 Meal 6:00 pm - F Lenten Worship 7:00 pm at Faith Bible Jam 7:30 pm at Faith HS Bible Study 8:30-9:30 pm at Faith	30	31	