



*Faith
Lutheran Church
505 2nd Street
Calamus, IA 52729*

Faith and Our Savior's Lutheran Churches (ELCA)

Calamus Lutheran Parish

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*Our Savior's
Lutheran Church
2589 190th Avenue
Calamus, IA 52729*

Pastor: Rev. Leah Holloway-Nilsen

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Number 10

Pastor's View

Dear Siblings in Christ,

My favorite movie is *The Sound of Music*. I love everything about it and I always have from a very young age. If you've never seen it, *The Sound of Music* tells the true story of Maria, who tried desperately to be a nun, and the Von Trapp family, whom she goes to work for as a governess at the suggestion of the Reverend Mother to help Maria find her calling in life. Maria, as it turns out, is a little too carefree to be a nun, and after a day spent doing things she really wasn't supposed to be doing, albeit harmless, Maria is sent to the Reverend Mother for direction and counsel. In their discussion, the Reverend Mother asks Maria, "What is the most important lesson you have learned here, my child?" And Maria responds with my favorite quote in the whole movie, "I'm to find out the will of God and to do it wholeheartedly."

For Maria finding out the will of God and doing it wholeheartedly took her to places that she didn't imagine and asked her to be brave in ways she wasn't expecting. She had thought she would be a nun, but she finds herself a governess to seven children whose mother had died and whose father didn't know how to cope with his grief. Doing the will of God wholeheartedly meant that Maria broke a few rules, loved and defended the children, thought quickly on her feet, fell in love, learned some lessons, escaped Austria as the Nazis began to take over, and was honest almost to a fault. It is my hope and prayer for myself that I live my life in this way, that I will be brave enough and faithful enough to find out the will of God and do it wholeheartedly each and every day. It is my hope and prayer that all of us would be able to do this as well.

Because when we live each moment trying to listen to the voice and will of God, every ordinary moment becomes an extraordinary moment. It's no longer about us, but it's about God and God's love for this whole world in Jesus. We will never do this perfectly, but since this is all about God, we do not need to be perfect. Jesus took care of perfection for us. When we focus on finding out the will of God and doing that, we will see how God leads us to some pretty amazing opportunities to love and be loved. We will get to be amazed again and again at this world that God created, that Jesus redeems, and that the Holy Spirit sustains. Thanks be to God.

Seeking God's will together,

Pastor Leah



Sunday Schedule

8:00 AM Worship at Our Savior's
9:25 AM Sunday School at Faith
10:30 AM Worship at Faith

Education Opportunities

SUNDAY SCHOOL

At 9:25 PM every Sunday morning at Faith, there are classes for children age 3 through 12th grade and adults of all ages.

COMMUNION INSTRUCTION

Pastor Leah will lead a Communion Instruction class on Tuesday, October 8, at 5:30 PM at Faith. Please contact Pastor Leah if you are interested.

Communion instruction is recommended for young children who have not yet received communion.

Children through sixth grade are encouraged to attend. The class is a good refresher for all, even adults! Children must be accompanied by an adult.

ACOLYTE TRAINING

Also on Tuesday, October 8, at 5:30 PM at Faith, there will be instructions for acolytes. This training is for anyone who is scheduled to acolyte at Faith and Our Savior's.

CONFIRMATION

6:00 PM on Wednesdays – Confirmation classes are at Faith.

BIBLE JAM

7:00 PM on Wednesdays – All 7th – 12th graders are invited to Faith for food, fellowship and fun following confirmation classes. **Meals:** Contact Heather Grau (563-424-0507) if you are willing to prepare and serve a meal to the youth on a Wednesday.

Naomi Circle Bible Study

Wednesday, October 9
10:00 AM at Marsha Witte's home in DeWitt
The group will then go to the DCHA luncheon at the UCC.



Gather magazine
"Receiving Grace: A Study of Ephesians"
by Rev. Heidi Haverkamp

DeWitt Community Hospital Auxiliary

Fall Luncheon

Wednesday, October 9
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

United Church of Christ, DeWitt
Menu: pulled chicken with roll, salads and dessert
Tickets: \$10.00 at the door

Thank you for supporting the local hospital!

World Hunger Day – October 15

During the month of October, the loose offering will be designated for ELCA World Hunger. Other donations are welcome, please designate for World Hunger. Faith and Our Savior's councils have already approved a donation of \$50 to ELCA World Hunger from each congregation.

Thank you for your generosity in support of this worthy cause!

There is an opportunity to listen to a Zoom presentation at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, October 15, celebrating the 50th anniversary of ELCA World Hunger. SE IA Bishop Amy Current and ELCA Vice President Imran Siddiqui will be the leaders. You may register at this link: <http://bit.ly/3ZzCWgX>

Noisy Offering - - Sunday, October 20

The 2024 recipient is Calamus Wheatland Schools

Generosity

- ✓ The offering at Calamus Wheatland Community Worship in the Park was \$416 for food-related ministries in Calamus and Wheatland.
- ✓ The Calamus Wheatland Fun Days Basket Raffle raised \$2,339 for renovations and upkeep at the Calamus Park and the Calamus Historical Project at City Hall.

It is time to hear from you!

The committee working on an online Membership Directory asked for replies from all members by September 30th. If you have not filled out a form and submitted a photo, please do so right away. There are hard copies of the form available at both Faith and Our Savior's churches.

All Saints Sunday is November 3rd

There is a sheet of paper at the back of each sanctuary for listing the names of loved ones who have died this past year.

Feeding the Children



Faith and Our Savior's members are again preparing food bags to provide weekend meals for Calamus-Wheatland students selected by the school counselor.

The Outreach Committee is coordinating the project. Volunteers are in place through December for packing bags and delivering food to the school on Friday mornings. Food is also adequate for the rest of the year.



September Meetings

~ ~ Joint Council ~ ~

Date: Thursday, September 12, at Faith

Present: Pastor Leah Holloway-Nilsen;

Our Savior's: Jason Bousselot, Deb Detlefs, Amy Glover, Joe Morehead;

Faith: Mitch Christensen, Luke Shelton, Ashley Steffens, Brian Tulley, Mark Witte

Pastor's Report

- Visiting the homebound, attending circle, having lunch at "Meet and Eat" monthly at Buck's Corner, meeting with area pastors once a week, volunteering at the elementary school once a month.
- Met with confirmands and their parents. Fall study will be "Faith, Church and Life." There are currently three 8th graders and two 7th graders from the parish, and possibly two 7th graders from St. John's, Bliedorn. The new Calamus Wheatland superintendent wants to explore ways for the local churches to be involved with the schools.

God Squad

- Bible Jam started September 11. The theme is "Where is God?" Continue to seek volunteers to prepare and serve meals for those attending Confirmation and Bible Jam on Wednesdays.
- Plan to have a fundraiser in October for Generation Zero Hunger.

Outreach

- Will serve pie and ice cream as the refreshments following the Thanksgiving service on Sunday, November 24.
- There will be a coat drive for the Carroll Assistance Center again this winter.
- Food for the "Feeding the Children" program will last through December and volunteers for bagging and delivery are in place through the end of the year.

Education

- Sunday School attendance was good on the first day. The veteran staff of leaders includes: Cindy Burke, Dan Burke, Heather Grau, Pat Grau, Eric Hoffmann, Rebecca Shorter, Ashley Steffens, Shelley Witt-Gentile, Marsha Witte and Pastor Leah Holloway-Nilsen. There is a need for a youth helper every Sunday in the P/K room.
- Communion Instruction Class scheduled for 5:30 PM on Tuesday, October 8, at Faith is for those seeking first communion and those wanting a refresher.
- Acolyte Training/Refresher will be Tuesday, October 8, at 5:30 PM at Faith.

Worship

- The committee would like to add special music to worship. If you are interested in offering special music (vocal or instrumental) during the offering at Our Savior's or Faith, please contact Pastor Leah or a member of the committee.
- Regular services at both churches will be held on Reformation Sunday, October 27.
- There will be a paper at each church for listing loved ones who have died this past year. They will be remembered on All Saints Sunday, November 3.
- SE IA Synod's Bishop Amy Current will be leading worship at Our Savior's and Faith on Sunday, November 10.
- Thanksgiving Service will be at 5:00 PM on Sunday, November 24, at Our Savior's (as long as the new lift is up and running). Plan to use "Of Land and Seasons" for the worship.

Old Business none

New Business

- Donation – Calamus Wheatland Fun Days Basket Raffle proceeds of \$2339 will be donated to the City of Calamus for renovations at the park and the new historical society project at city hall.
- Offering – The offering of \$416 received at worship in the park will be split between the food pantry in Wheatland at St. Paul UCC and the CLP "Feeding the Children" project.

~ ~ Our Savior's Council ~ ~

Old Business none

New Business

- Organ – The organ was tuned. Cost for repairing the wooden pipes will be approximately \$8,300. Motion by Deb to have the repairs done in 2025. Seconded and approved.
- Speaker – Need to install a speaker in the preschool room downstairs. It will become the cry room because of the new lift.

~~ Faith Council ~~

Old Business

- Outdoor sign – Research and discussion led to looking into two 69” x 36” LED signs mounted on a sign base to make it double sided.
- Pipe leaks – Contractor is still waiting on parts.
- Parsonage steps – Will continue to look at options for sides to cover the underneath framing.
- Ceiling Repairs – The plaster repair person is waiting on the structure work. That construction company is not responding to calls. Mark and Luke will look for another option.
- Bats – Broken windows have been fixed and holes filled. If there continues to be evidence of bats, a pest control company will be called.

New Business

- Constitution updates – The council will meet with Pastor Leah at 6:00 PM on Monday, September 30, to review the document.
- Church Mutual policy – Premiums will increase.

Next Meeting

- Thursday, October 10; 7:00 PM at Our Savior’s

November newsletter items are due Monday, October 14.



MINSTERS for October 2024

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:

Eric Hoffmann
Grant Hoffmann

Acolyte:

Lucas Shorter

Communion Assistant:

Brian Tulley

Lectors:

October 6: Sharyl Banowetz
October 13: Doreen Henning
October 20: Andrea Shelton
October 27: Alan Lee

Altar Ministry:

Marsha and Mark Witte

OUR SAVIOR'S CHURCH

Usher:

Dan Burke

Acolyte:

Faith Will

Communion Assistant:

Cindy Burke

Lectors:

October 6: Neil Holmquist
October 13: Cindy Burke
October 20: Marcia Edens
October 27: David Burke

Cleaners:

Deb and Ray Detlefs

October 2024 Calamus Lutheran Parish

NOTE: Check the website www.clp parish.org for more information.

OS = Our Savior's Church

F = Faith Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 Confirmation 6:00 pm at Faith Bible Jam 7:00 pm at Faith	3	4	5
6 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 Sunday School – F 10:30 Worship – F	7	8 “Meet and Eat” Noon at Buck’s Corner in Calamus First Communion Instruction and Acolyte Training 5:30 pm at Faith	9 Naomi Circle 10:00 am Marsha Witte’s home DCHA Luncheon 11:00 – 1:00 at UCC, DeWitt Confirmation 6:00 pm at Faith Bible Jam 7:00 pm at Faith Education Committee 7:00 pm at Faith	10 Outreach Committee 6:00 pm at OS Worship Committee 6:30 pm at OS Joint Council 7:00 pm at OS	11	12
13 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 Sunday School – F 10:30 Worship – F	14 November newsletter items are due.	15 World Food Day	16 Confirmation 6:00 pm at Faith Bible Jam 7:00 pm at Faith	17	18	19
20 Noisy Offering 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 Sunday School – F 10:30 Worship – F	21	22	23 Confirmation 6:00 pm at Faith Bible Jam 7:00 pm at Faith	24	25	26
27 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 Sunday School – F 10:30 Worship – F Reformation Sunday	28	29	30 Confirmation 6:00 pm at Faith Bible Jam 7:00 pm at Faith	31 Reformation Day Halloween		

All Saints Sunday is November 3rd