



*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 11

Pastor's View

Dear Siblings in Christ,

On November 5th our country will hold an election and one of the ballot items will be for us to elect a new president and vice president. Our presidential elections over the last several cycles have become increasingly polarized, and it seems to me that it has become more and more challenging to have conversations about politics for fear of the discussion turning into an argument. Furthermore, TV and social media have not helped this division, they often seem to exacerbate the tensions. Some of us may feel anxiety or dread about the potential outcomes of the election.

As Christians, both throughout the country and within our parish, different political views exist. I have to trust that each comes to those views faithfully, through prayer and discernment, and that we are hoping for the best for our country. However, no matter our politics, we are all still made in God's image and for all of us Jesus lived and died and rose again, removing the powers of sin and death. So as Christians we get to bring a different story to the table on election day. We get to tell the story of the gospel, which promises God's love and salvation for all creation in Jesus's death and resurrection. We get to tell the story of Baptism, where God promises to be with us forever. We get to tell the story of Communion, where we all eat the same meal of forgiveness and new life. We get to tell the story of Jesus, who loves us all beyond all comprehension and unites us together as the Body of Christ.

I offer us this prayer for election day from ELCA's Worship Resources

Everlasting God, source of all liberty, before whom every earthly ruler must bow and bend the knee, we lay our nation before you as we prepare for an election. Breathe upon us your Spirit of wisdom and discernment. Grant all who seek public office the mind of Christ, who came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life for the freedom of the oppressed. Hold before us those who face uncertain futures, or who have no voice in our political process. Uphold and safeguard poll workers and election officials in their work. Spare us from the crushing weight of cynicism. Give us grace to speak courageously, but with love, without which our words are noise and we are nothing. Gather us together under the cross, where, in all of our difference, we can stand as one people, redeemed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

In Christ's Peace,
Pastor Leah

November



Set Your Clocks Back!



Daylight Saving Time Ends November 3rd

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.

Education Opportunities

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

CONFIRMATION

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

BIBLE JAM

7:00PM 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.

~~~~~ Special Guest ~~~~~

Southeastern Iowa Synod Bishop Amy Current will be in Calamus on Sunday, November 10th.

The bishop will preach at both Our Savior's Worship at 8:00AM and Faith Worship at 10:30AM. Pastor Leah Holloway-Nilsen will preside. Please come and offer Bishop Amy a warm welcome. There will be a potluck meal at Faith at 11:30AM.

Special Music #1

The Worship Committee would like to add special music to services. 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 Worship Committee.

Special Music #2

"Of Land and Seasons" will be the liturgy used at the Thanksgiving Service. All are welcome to learn this new music at practices from 9:25-9:45 at Faith on the Sunday mornings during November.

Community Fellowship

"Meet and Eat" at noon on the second Tuesday of each month at Buck's Corner in Calamus. Invite a friend to join the group for lunch on Tuesday, November 12th. Everyone orders what they want from the menu.

Naomi Circle Bible Study

Wednesday, November 13th
10:00AM at Marsha Witte's home



November/December issue of *Gather* magazine

Noisy Offering - Sunday, November 17th



The 2024 recipient of the Noisy Offerings is Calamus Wheatland Schools.

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

Sunday, November 24th

Our Savior's Church ~ 5:30PM



The offering is paper products and canned goods for the Carroll Assistance Center, Wheatland. The collection will begin November 3rd at both churches.

Pie and ice cream will be served in the fellowship hall following worship. The free-will offering will go to ELCA World Hunger.

The Calamus Lutheran Parish Directory is available to view on your computer and mobile device. Those who have submitted directory information will have access. Log into the Online Member Directory at <https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/>

If you have not submitted information, you may still do so by referring to instructions in previous bulletins, newsletters, or Wednesday email messages. Information sheets are available at the back of each church. If you have any questions, contact the church office. Phone 563-246-2622 or send an email to clparish@fbcom.net.

God's Work ~ Our Hands

Every Friday – weekend meals for seven Calamus Wheatland students

Third Sunday of each month – change in the Noisy Offering for Calamus Wheatland Schools

November – canned goods and paper products gathered for the Carroll Assistance Center

December – winter coats, hats and gloves collected for the Carroll Assistance Center

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



October Meetings

~~ Joint Council ~~

Date: Thursday, October 10, at Our Savior's

Present: Pastor Leah Holloway-Nilsen;

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

Faith: Terri Bousset, Mitch Christensen, Brittany Hoffmann, Luke Shelton, Ashley Steffens, Brian Tulley, Mark Witte.

Pastor's Report

- Confirmation is going well.
- Sunday Adult Study is learning about different Christian denominations.
- Volunteers in a third grade classroom at C-W Elementary twice a month.
- Presided at a funeral at St. John's Lutheran, Bliedorn, when the intern became ill.
- Providing guidance to the couple being married at Faith on November 16th.

God Squad

- Youth will host a Halloween Fun Night from 5:30 -7:00PM on Sunday, October 27, at Faith. Everyone is invited and encouraged to come in costume. God Squad will serve soup and the free-will offering will be a fundraiser for Christmas gifts for the Angel Tree project. There will be activities and an outdoor movie.

Worship

- Thanksgiving Service will be at 5:30PM on Sunday, November 24, at Our Savior's. A new service "Of Land and Seasons" will be used. All are welcome to learn the music at practices from 9:25-9:45 at Faith on the Sunday mornings during November.
- 9:00PM Christmas Eve worship is at Our Savior's. 9:00AM Christmas Day worship is at Faith. There will be one service only at 9:00AM on Sunday, December 29, at Our Savior's. No Sunday School that day.

Education

- Children's Christmas Program will be 10:30AM Sunday, December 15, at Faith.
- Program rehearsals are scheduled for 6:00PM on Wednesdays December 4 and 11 at Faith. The 10:00AM Saturday, December 14 rehearsal will be followed by caroling and pizza.

Outreach

- Will have sign-up sheets for pies as the refreshments following the Thanksgiving service.
- Paper products and canned goods will be collected in November for the Carroll Assistance Center and displayed at the Thanksgiving service.
- Winter coats, hats and gloves will be collected in December and January.

Old Business none

New Business

- Secretary – A person has expressed interest in the part-time parish secretary position. Council discussed hours needed per week. Employment would begin in 2025. T. Bousset made a motion to request the PCC schedule an interview. Seconded and carried.
- Insurance – Witte made a motion to renew the current Gold Plus Portico Health Insurance plan for Pastor Leah. Seconded and carried.

~~ Our Savior's Council ~~

Old Business none

New Business

- Fire Victims – Detlefs made a motion to send \$250 to the family north of Calamus whose house was destroyed by a fire. Seconded and carried
- Electrical Boxes – Detlefs made a motion to spend \$1,500 to update the electrical boxes and add light switches. Seconded and carried.
- Cleaning Day – At 9:00AM on Saturday, November 9, the basement will be cleaned following the lift installation. The preschool room downstairs will be cleaned to make a new cry room area. All help is appreciated.

~~ Faith Council ~~

Old Business

- Exterior Sign – Waiting for the total cost of the two-sided sign and construction of the base.
- Pipe Leak – Repair in the basement is going well.
- Ceiling Repair – Aaron Soenksen dry walled and insulated the hole. Plaster work will be done by Aaron Anderson.
- Bats – There has been no evidence of bats in the kitchen or furnace room.
- Water Temperature Monitor – It will be activated when the basement repairs are completed.
- Parsonage steps – Wooden lattice may be the best option for enclosing the underside. Work tabled until spring.

New Business

- Fire Victims – Tulley made a motion to donate \$500 to the Calamus family who lost their home to fire. Seconded and carried.
- Constitution – All members of the council discussed and revised the 2003 version of the Faith Lutheran Church Constitution on September 30th. Christensen made a motion to approve the revised constitution. Seconded and carried. Faith Council will request approval at the 2025 annual congregational meeting.
- Active or In-Active – Council is reviewing all members. In 2025, people who have not been engaged in church activities will be contacted to determine their needs as members.

Next Council Meetings

- **Thursday, November 14; 7:00PM at Faith**



Looking ahead. . . .

First Sunday of Advent - December 1 Hanging of the Greens



Advent is the first season in the church year, comprising the four weeks before Christmas.

The focus is on the long-awaited birth of Jesus at Bethlehem, and the second Advent, when Christ will return.

To help prepare for the birth of Christ, in addition to Sunday worship, there will be mid-week Advent services Wednesday evenings at 7:00PM preceded by a meal at 6:15PM.

Wednesday, December 4, at Faith

Wednesday, December 11, at Faith

Wednesday, December 18, at Our Savior's

MINSTERS for November 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:

David and Terri Boussetot

Acolyte:

Grant Hoffmann

Communion Assistant:

Terri Boussetot

Lectors:

November 3: Terri Boussetot

November 10: Brian Tulley

November 17: Shelley Witt-Gentile

November 24: Christ the King Sunday

Altar Ministry:

David and Terri Boussetot

OUR SAVIOR'S CHURCH

Usher:

Neil Holmquist

Acolyte:

Mason Easterday

Communion Assistant:

David Burke

Lectors:

November 3: Amy Glover

November 10: Jason Boussetot

November 17: Melisa Jacobsen

November 24: Eva Burke

Cleaner:

Jason Boussetot

November 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
3 All Saints Sunday 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 Sunday School – F 10:30 Worship – F Daylight Saving Time Ends	4	5 Election Day	6 Confirmation 6:00 pm at Faith Bible Jam 7:00 pm at Faith	7	8	9 Cleaning Day at Our Savior's 9:00 am
10 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 Sunday School – F 10:30 Worship – F SE IA Synod Bishop Amy Current will preach at both worship services. Pastor Leah will preside. 11:30 am Potluck Meal at Faith	11 Veterans Day	12 “Meet and Eat” Noon at Buck's Corner in Calamus	13 Naomi Circle 10:00 am Marsha Witte's home Confirmation 6:00 pm at Faith Bible Jam 7:00 pm at Faith Education Committee 7:00 pm at Faith	14 Outreach Committee 6:00 pm at Faith Worship Committee 6:30 pm at Faith Joint Council 7:00 pm at Faith	15	16
17 Noisy Offering 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 Sunday School – F 10:30 Worship – F	18 December newsletter items are due.	19	20 Confirmation 6:00 pm at Faith Bible Jam 7:00 pm at Faith	21	22	23
24 Christ the King 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 Sunday School – F 10:30 Worship – F Thanksgiving Service at Our Savior's 5:30 pm	25	26	27	28 Thanksgiving Day	29	30

Advent begins on Sunday, December 1st