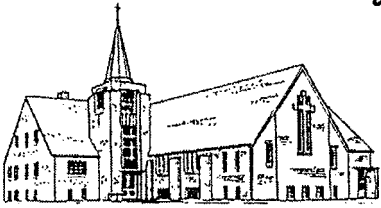


Faith and Our Savior's Lutheran Churches ELCA

Calamus Lutheran Parish

P.O. Box 116 Calamus, IA 52729 Phone (563) 246-2622

Pastor Sarah E.M. Kretzmann



Faith Lutheran
505 2nd Street

Email: clparish@fbcom.net
www.clparish.org



Our Savior's
2589 190th Avenue

Volume 26

NOVEMBER 2013

Number 11

Pastor Writes



How can it be that something so natural can be the cause of such controversy?

Hmmm.

I'm talking about snow.

Yesterday, while it was still October, we had our first snow, which I thought was absolutely beautiful. The flakes were so big that the mind half-expected to *hear* the sound of their impact as they landed on the ground, so big that I expected the tree branches to jar and jolt and jostle as they were bombarded by flakes the size of large moths. But no, it was silent and still, and beautiful.

Do you remember that day? I was walking past an upstairs east-facing window and paused for a minute or two to watch the snow fall on the boys' sandbox and treehouse. I almost couldn't tear myself away from that window. When is the last time you gazed upon something so utterly beautiful you had to force yourself to look away?

Iowa winters don't bother me, save for the fact that I never completely warm up until about mid-April. Ice, I hate, as we all do. Snow, I love, as we all *should*. But, as it turns out, not all do. We are a people divided when it comes to snow.

Throughout that snowy day, a surprising number of people grumbled and complained...*time to dig out the snow shovels...time to get the car ready for the winter...I don't even have any salt yet...it's the ugliest time of year...I don't have any boots or coats for the kids yet...now I have to start thinking about the stupid holidays...*

These are things I actually heard.

Hmmm.

We all do realize we do not live in Hawaii or southern Italy or Florida, right? They have their own stunning landscapes and climates...we have corn fields and wooded river valleys that just happen to look stunning this time of year—this

fleeting autumn-into-fall transformation. I find this time of year altogether majestic. Breathtaking.

But it also stirs within me a deep panic.

Because the changing of the seasons are a visual reminder of That Thing we all want to ignore—the passage of time. Birth. The infant growing into a child. The child growing into a man or a woman. The woman or man growing strong, maturing, growing feeble, growing old. Death. The changing of the seasons, the flipping of the calendar; the ones born this year will be the class of 2030. These things march on, and there is nothing we can do about it. And sometimes that makes me panic, and you, too, I'm sure. Because it means I am getting older, and you are, too. And our kids are getting older, and soon, if they don't already, they will drive and vote and work and marry and discover their own lives...and it all begins with that first wobbly step we capture on video. The step because a jog, becomes a sprint, becomes a mile, becomes a state, a country, a continent.

These are the things I pondered in that minute (maybe two) as I looked out the east window and watched it snow, in that jungle that is my brain. Sometimes fleeting things are the most beautiful, because they have to be savored before they disappear forever. I know we will have more snow, but that was the *first* now, and a gorgeous one at that. And I remembered Jesus' parting words to his disciples, "I won't be with you much longer..." and they protested and panicked and cried and clung to him...He, too, was a natural thing of beauty that everyone should have savored, but some didn't, and so they killed him. But he'll be back. Because grace is all about repeat performances.

(continued on following page)

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If we think of every moment—and every person—as a fleeting gift, then perhaps we might savor and appreciate them all the more, and cling while we can.

The boys tumbled through the door at the end of the day, shouting all at the same time, “Mom, did you *see* that snow? Wasn’t that *AWESOME?*” I’m relieved that they have inherited the gene of appreciation. I smiled, “Of course I saw the snow. Of course it was awesome!” Then one said, “It’s sad that it melted, but it was great while it lasted.”

Which is exactly my point, just better put.

- *Pastor Sarah Kretzmann*

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP

November 27 - Faith Church

7:00 p.m.

(There is no monetary offering - only paper and dry goods for the Carroll Assistance Center, Wheatland)



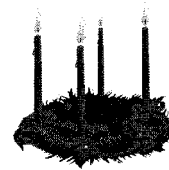
Prepared Meal Served at 6:00 p.m.

All Saints Sunday

Sunday, November 3, the Christian Church celebrates “All Saints Sunday.” On this day, we remember with thanksgiving those saints who have gone before us. At our baptism, God made us saints, as well, and wrapped us in the pure, white robes of eternal life. **There will be a sign-up sheet in both churches to add the names of those dear to you who have died this past year.** Or you may phone the names in to the church office (246-2622).

**The Noisy Offering Will Be
Received November 17**

First Sunday of Advent - December 1



Advent is the first season in the church year, comprising the four weeks before Christmas. We focus on the long-awaited birth of Jesus at Bethlehem, and to the second Advent, when Christ will return.

To help us prepare for the birth of Christ, in addition to Sunday worship, we will have mid-week Advent services on Wednesday evenings. A 6:00 p.m. served meal precedes the 7:00 worship service.

Midweek Advent Schedule:

- ◆ **December 4 – Faith Church**
- ◆ **December 11 – St. John's Church
(Bliedorn)**
- ◆ **December 18 – Our Savior's Church**

"Treat the Pantries"



“Treat the Pantries” Sundays will be November 3, 10 and 17 at Faith and Our Savior’s Churches. **Make your check payable to your congregation designated for “Treat the Pantries” and place it in the offering plate at Our Savior’s Church or in the container in the narthex at Faith Church.** All monetary donations are due by November 17.

The West Clinton County Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is sponsoring this Care Abounds in Communities project in the eleven congregations of the chapter. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will add \$1,600 to the amount collected. The money will be divided amongst the four food pantries serving the area: DeWitt, Elvira, Lost Nation and Wheatland.

Thank you for your support of “Treat the Pantries,” a project that has provided funds to the area food pantries since 1983.



At the October Council Meetings

Joint Council:

➤ Pastor Sarah reported the new Wednesday evening schedule will include Luther League at 5:30 p.m., Confirmation at 6:30 p.m. and Women's Fellowship at 8:00 p.m.; Ashley Steffens and Heather Grau volunteered to serve as Luther League leaders; the Luther League will sponsor the soup supper on Halloween at Faith Church and future activities will focus on ministry and outreach;

➤ Worship Committee: Reformation and All Saints services have been finalized and Communion hymns were reviewed;

➤ Stewardship and Christian Outreach Committee: a potluck, hayride and bonfire will be held at Dirk and Annette's farm on November 2 beginning at 4:00 p.m.

➤ Education Committee: 50 students are enrolled in Sunday School – limited space for classes results in noise and insufficient seating making instruction challenging – suggestions for improving the learning experience during Sunday School are welcomed; the Christmas program will be held December 15; there will be no Sunday School or Adult Class on December 22 or 29;

➤ Photo directories have been ordered and may be purchased for \$6.00 on reformation Sunday, October 27;

➤ "Treat the Pantries" will be held November 3, 10 and 17;

➤ The ELCA endorsed Health Benefits Gold Plan providing insurance for Pastor, Christian, Jacob, and Philip was discussed and approved with a monthly payment per church of approximately \$719.00;

➤ Heather Grau volunteered to create and maintain a parish Facebook page.

Faith Council:

➤ Financial reports were approved with a designated balance of \$4,319.40 and a working balance of \$8,822.66;

➤ Colette will confirm the bill for boiler repair and request specific purpose for \$2,175.31 for building and repair item;

➤ Consideration was given to the temperature of the sanctuary during the last few weeks – input will be asked from Keith Gasper regarding the monitoring the temperature during cooler weather;

➤ Actions on other items discussed were tabled due to lack of a quorum.

Our Savior's Council:

➤ Approved financial reports with a balance of \$3,889.39;

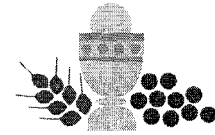
➤ Computer was purchased and Dan will get it set up.

Our Savior's Monthly Financial Report

September 2013

Beginning Balance.....	\$14,475.38
Deposits	\$ 3,934.39
Disbursements.....	\$15,195.38
Ending Balance.....	\$ 3,889.39

First Communion



On October 6 these young people received their First Communion: Andrew Grau, son of Pat and Heather Grau and Kane and Laura Grau; Josh Gronewold, son of Jim and Julie Gronewold; Austin Henning, son of Blaine and Kayla Henning; Chase Knoche, son of Jamie and Trina Knoche; Alyssa McElmeel, daughter of Brooke and Jon Hewer; Magnus Sands, son of Eric and Joyce Sands; Anne Tulley, daughter of Brian and Deb Tulley and Ethan Wilhelm, son of Adam and Rebecca Wilhelm.

Opportunities to Serve

If you have searching for ways you can serve in your church, you can learn more about opportunities waiting for you. Two Adult Bible Study sessions will be interactive and discuss ways to serve within the church. **The November 17 Adult Study will offer an interactive session on Altar Ministry and Communion Assistant. The November 24 Adult Study will offer information on serving as Lector and Usher.** Everyone interested in learning more about these opportunities to serve within the church is invited to attend. This year, Adult Bible Class is held at 9:25 a.m. at Our Savior's Church.

Luther League Lounge!



Who? All 7-12 graders

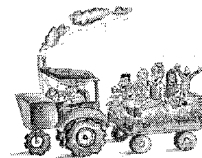
What? Weekly Wednesday night meetings

When? 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays -

Where? Faith Church

Seeking adult advisors (adults willing to help facilitate discussions, Bible studies, organize events, etc). See Pastor Sarah, Ashley Steffens or Heather Grau if interested.

Parish Hayride & Potluck



When: Saturday, November 2,
4:00 p.m.

Where: Dirk Braet's "Man Shed"
1831 - 265th Street

(Just south of Our Savior's)

What to Bring:

A dish to share, tableware; water and lemonade will be provided

2013-14 Confirmation Class

The following young people are in Confirmation Class this year - please lift them up in prayer:

8th graders: Serina Carpenter, Brienna Williams and Garrett Condon.

7th Graders: Kale Whitman, Beth Tulley and Noah Mullin

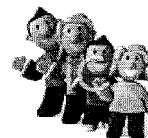
Christian Outreach

Eight "Busy Bags" have been sewn and filled as the 2013 Vacation Bible School project and will be sent to Messiah Lutheran Church in New Jersey. Lutheran World Relief received eight quilts from Faith Church.

Women's Fellowship and Bible Study

If you are a woman of the Calamus Lutheran Parish not already involved in either Lydia or Naomi Bible Study circles, maybe this is something for you! Weekly studies will include the Bible, books, various faith topics, etc. to be held Wednesday evenings at 8:00 at Faith Church. Our first meeting is Wednesday, October 16 at 8:00 p.m. Hope to see you there.

News About Our People



Jason and Chad Bousselot were legally wed on Saturday, October 6. A Service of Prayer and Thanksgiving was held at Our Savior's.

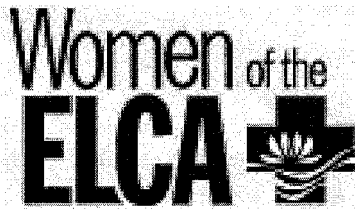


Joshua, Teisha, Alexa and Avery Jacobi became members of Faith Lutheran Church on October 20. Welcome to the Calamus Lutheran Parish!



Julie, Ryan and Kara Olson became members of Our Savior's Lutheran on October 20. Welcome to the Calamus Lutheran Parish!

**December Newsletter Items
Due November 20, please.
Thanks for your cooperation!**



**In Good Company –
Stories of Biblical Women**

**"The Widow of Zarephath,
A Trusting Follower"**

"But she said, 'As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die!'"

– 1 Kings 17:12



Lydia Circle

Wednesday, November 20, 2:00 p.m.

Hostess: Kay Olson

Leader: Sharon Boussetot



Naomi Circle

Friday, November 15, 9:30 a.m.

Hostess: Diane Christensen

Leader: Jeannene Boussetot

***Christmas at
Luther 2013***

"Full of Grace and Truth"

Thursday, December 5 – 5:45 p.m.

Friday, December 6 – 6:30 and 9:15 p.m.

Saturday, December 7 – 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 8 – 2:30 p.m.

***Center for Faith and Life – Luther College
Box Office (563)387-1357***

***Praise God From Whom
All Blessings Flow***



**A Church Choir Festival
Sunday, November 24, 2013**

7:00 Pm

St. Joseph Church

417- 6th Avenue

DeWitt, Iowa

The DeWitt Area Fine Arts Foundation presents an evening of Christian music.

No admission fee will be charged for the event. There will be a free-will offering designated for the Referral and Services Center in DeWitt.

The music will be performed by the chancel choirs from First Congregational United Church of Christ, Grace Lutheran Church, St. Joseph Catholic Church and the United Methodist Church, all of DeWitt; Immanuel Lutheran Church of Grand Mound and Faith and Our Savior's Lutheran Churches of Calamus. Bella Canta, a women's choral group, will also sing at the festival.

Join the choirs in praising God: God beyond name and form, God known in Jesus Christ, and God present in the Holy Spirit.

Following the concert, refreshments will be served in Harness Hall.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Nov 1: John Ihns
 Nov 4: Ryan Olson
 Nov 5: Magnus Sands
 Benjamin Harkness
 Nov 6: Angela Knudtsen
 Nov 7: Brodina Boussetot
 Nov 8: Joe Bruckman
 Lance Seastrand
 Jason Wilhelm
 Scott Peters
 Matt Olson
 Tammy Olive
 Nov 9: Braeden Hayes
 Nov 10: Terri Boussetot
 Nov 12: Wendi Seastrand
 Nathaniel Cunningham
 Jacob Montover
 Nov 13: David Lahann
 Nov 15: Brandon Septer
 Nov 18: Adam Wilhelm
 Nov 20: Chayse Griebel
 Nov 21: Florence Petersen
 Colette Christensen
 Nov 23: Sherri Brady
 Debra Dillon
 Nov 24: Linda Lindaman
 Conrad Dosland
 Makenzie Garrett
 Nov 25: David Burke
 Nov 26: Vera St. John
 Shelley Weiss
 Nov 27: Eldon Pewe
 Nov 28: Evelyn Stueland
 Macailah Jacobsen
 Nov 29: Tina Braet-Thomas
 Julie Olson
 ♥
 Nov 11: Terry & Julie Steines
 Nov 12: Leonard & Linda Elsner
 Dave & Hilda Hellyer
 Nov 17: Tom & Judy Olson
 Nov 18: William & Janice Berger
 Nov 22: Pr. Rick & Marlene Miller
 Nov 28: Dave & Linda Lindaman
 If there are errors or omissions in the birthday or anniversary list, please notify the church office so corrections can be made.

Thank You!

Thank you to the anonymous person who left the gift of an apron on my chair in the office. I have been whining about not being able to find an "apron like Mom had" and someone heard my plea. Thanks again and I will now stop whining, at least about the apron! - Jeannene

Looking for Old Barn Boards



Soaring Eagle Nature Center is seeking donations of barn wood to help in building new displays that will share the homesteading history of the forty acres of land the center sits on. Old farming tools would also be extremely helpful. The nature center is a converted 1938 dairy barn in Clinton, IA. It is run completely on donations and grants. K-12 students come to the center for field trips on a regular basis. The center is free and open to the public. Contact Melisa Jacobsen at 563-349-0811 if you can help!

"It is delightfully easy to thank God for the grace we ourselves have received, but it requires great grace to thank God always for the grace given to others." ~ James Smith

Happy Thanksgiving!



MINISTERS FOR NOVEMBER 2013

FAITH

Ushers:

Marilyn Schau
Larry Schau
Diane Wilhelm
Herb Wilhelm

Acolytes:

Kale Whitman
Karragan Whitman

Altar Ministry:

Larry & Marilyn Schau

Communion Assistant:

Marsha Witte

Greeter:

Nov 3: Andrea Shelton
Nov 10: Doreen Henning
Nov 17: Gary Braet
Nov 24: Laurie Storjohann

Lectors:

Nov 3: Heather Whitman
Nov 10: Lois Wessels
Nov 17: Alan Lee
Nov 24: Pastor Sarah (Christ the King)

OUR SAVIOR'S

Ushers:

David Olson
Dave Whitman

Acolyte:

Maia Glover

Communion Assistant:

Peter Whitman

Lector:

Nov 3: Dion Olson
Nov 10: Dave Whitman
Nov 17: Dan Burke
Nov 24: Pastor Sarah (Christ the King)

Cleaners:

Barb Flynn
Bill Morehead

Christian, Jacob & Philip Caregivers

Nov 3: Julie Gronewold
Nov 10: Hal & Andrea Shelton
Nov 17: Dirk & Annette Braet
Nov 24: Boys with Nate

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.


Thanksgiving Eve Worship

November 27 ~ 7:00 p.m. ~ Faith Lutheran Church



6:00 p.m. Prepared Meal Served

NOVEMBER 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 4:00 Parish Hayride & Potluck at Dirk & Annette Braet's Bring dish to share and tableware
3 All Saints Sunday "Treat the Pantries" 8:00 Worship - F 9:25 SS/AC - OS 10:30 Worship - OS	4	5	6 5:30 Luther League-F 6:30 Confirmation - F 8:00 Women's Fellowship - F	7	8	9
10 "Treat the Pantries" 8:00 Worship - F 9:25 SS/AC - OS 10:30 Worship - OS	11	12 7:00 Committee Night - F	13 5:30 Luther League-F 6:30 Confirmation - F 8:00 Women's Fellowship - F 7:00 Choir - F	14 6:00 Worship Committee - F 7:30 Joint Council - F	15 9:30 Naomi Circle H-Diane Christensen L-Jeannene	16
17 "Treat the Pantries" 8:00 Worship - F 9:25 SS/AC - OS 10:30 Worship - OS	18	19	20 2:00 Lydia Circle H-Kay L-Sharon 5:30 Luther League-F 6:30 Confirmation - F 8:00 Women's Fellowship - F	21	22	23
24 Christ the King 8:00 Worship - F 9:25 SS/AC - OS 10:30 Worship - OS	25	26	27 Thanksgiving Eve 6:00 Prepared Meal at Faith 7:00 Thanksgiving Worship at Faith	28 Thanksgiving Day 	29 Church Offices Closed	30

Calamus Lutheran Parish
Faith & Our Savior's Lutheran Churches
P.O. Box 116
Calamus, Iowa 52729-0116
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**Calamus Lutheran Parish
Worship Schedule**



8:00 A.M. Sunday Worship
Faith Lutheran Church
505 Second Street, town of Calamus



9:25 A.M. Sunday School/Adult Class
Our Savior's Lutheran Church



10:30 A.M. Sunday Worship
Our Savior's Lutheran Church
2589 – 190th Avenue, rural Calamus

Church Office..... 563.246.2622
Pastor Sarah's Office..... 563.246.2558
Church email address.....clparish@fbcom.net
Pastor's emailpastorsarahk@fbcom.net
Church Website.....www.clparish.org



November

Thanksgiving Fun

1. What year did the Pilgrims celebrate the first Thanksgiving?
 - a) 1620
 - b) 1621
 - c) 1622
 - d) 1630

2. How many days did the first Thanksgiving celebration last?
 - a) 2
 - b) 3
 - c) 5
 - d) 7

3. Who was the governor of Plymouth County at the time of the first Thanksgiving celebration?
 - a) Miles Standish
 - b) John Alden
 - c) Edward Southward
 - d) William Bradford

4. Who was the first U.S. president to declare a national day of Thanksgiving?
 - a) George Washington
 - b) Abraham Lincoln
 - c) Franklin D. Roosevelt
 - d) Rutherford Hayes

5. Which U.S. president established Thanksgiving as a national holiday?
 - a) George Washington
 - b) Abraham Lincoln
 - c) Franklin D. Roosevelt
 - d) Rutherford Hayes

Thanksgiving Word Search

Words associated with Thanksgiving are hidden in the puzzle. Can you find them all?

J E E S S N T T S K Z M S W D J E X S	CHESTNUTS
N S C P V T I F H M M A E R S V A N J	CRANBERRIES
D C H E S T N U T S K B N I K P M U P	DINNER
M Y A D S R U H T L M W V M Y D O J N	FAMILY
I T H A N K S G I V I N G O I C Y L E	FEAST
N G U T H M T F X P F Y K N S X K R I	FRUIT
D G S L M K Y R C O E E N I H Y Z V C	GRAVY
I Q M O W K T U J T K E A S Q L L Z C	HARVEST
A M I E V N A I L A R U E S T I Q M M	INDIANS
N H R Y I Z O T L T J I K R T M T X E	NOVEMBER
S T G G S P O V W O R R L Y A A Y P Y	PECANPIE
T U L G N L N E E R T I Z T N F N G A	PILGRIMS
F O I P W I K A E M C M U D D O C E M	PLYMOUTH
I M P N S M F B C H B R D U Y M C L S	POTATO
Y Y K Y P M N F G E K E M Z E K W D Y	PUMPKIN
O L M S S A P V U E P R R R O P C D J	STUFFING
D P L M R J U F Y T A T T S E V R A H	TURKEY
G T K C G R A V Y Y S W W Q H F Y N C	THANKSGIVING
	THURSDAY
	YAMS

All About Puzzles

Answers:
1. b
2. c
3. a
4. a
5. b