

Calamus Lutheran Parish
Faith & Our Savior's Lutheran Churches
P.O. Box 116
Calamus, Iowa 52729-0116
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**Calamus Lutheran Parish
Pastor William Runaas, Jr.**



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



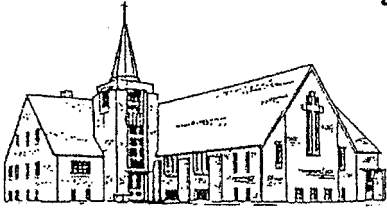
**9:25 A.M. Sunday School/Adult Class
Our Savior's Lutheran Church**



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

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





Faith Lutheran
505 2nd Street

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

Our Savior's
2589 190th Avenue

Volume 29

MAY 2016

Number 5

Pastor's View

Why Church? In step seven of AA, this step involves actions that we ask God to remove our short comings. We are asking God to change us. How is God going to remove these defects? God chooses to use very special tools. They don't look like much. Some water, some words, some bread and some wine. Touched by God's special grace these common and mundane elements become instruments of mercy. They are the channels through which the Holy Spirit leads us to the cross of Christ and works in us the forgiveness of sins, faith, and new life. Why church? Because Church is where we find Christ clearly and His gifts.

Mom's Bible Study – "Coffee and a Little Jesus" - Heather Grau is hosting a bible study and talk time about our faith. Mom's and children are welcome. They will meet the first Tuesday of the month at 9 am. Call Heather at 563-424-0507 or email grau.heather@gmail.com.

1st Communion Class - We will be offering 1st communion classes for all ages of persons. If your child has questions about communion I would encourage them to attend the classes. If they have already had one class it might be helpful if they would take a refresher class. This is a two lesson class. We will use a DVD called **Sacraments in Action** and the book "A Place for You." Please call the office if you are going to attend. The dates are May 11(F.) & 18(O.S.) at 6:30. I am looking forward to the class time with you and your student. May 22 is Celebration of First Communion.

Noisy Offering – May is our Noisy offering for the Syrian Refuges. Lutheran Disaster Relief is the contact agency for us. The offerings will be sent to the synod office and they will send the offering on

to LDR in our name. A designated offering is 100% to the people in need.

Ongoing conflict in Syria has displaced millions of people. Many have left their homes for more secure places within Syria while others are crossing the borders into the neighboring countries of Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq in search of safety and shelter. Stretched resources and political dynamics are increasing tension for those who are most vulnerable in the area. We are currently at work through our partners in Syria and the surrounding area. Our work with The Lutheran World Federation and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land includes meeting the needs of Syrian refugees who have traveled to Jordan. Camp management and the provision of access to proper shelter have been the primary focus of our work. We have committed over \$1 million to help support people who have been displaced within Syria. We are also providing camp management and housing for refugees in Jordan. But we need you. It is because of generous gifts from people like you that we are able to respond to people in need. Our unique relationships with Lutheran churches around the world enable us to be on the ground – making a difference. Your gift designated for "Syrian conflict" will be used in full – 100 percent – to respond to this conflict.

Confirmation – Confirmation is here. Please pray for these young people as they move into a more adult life in faith. This is a hard transition to make. The transition involves moving from your parents telling you have to go to church to attending church on your own. Pray for our youth. Pray for the parents. Pray for our youth because we love them. Invite our youth to worship with us.

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(continued from front page)

Upcoming Dates –

May 2, 9 & 16 VBS for the Kids

May 6 & 7 Synod Assembly

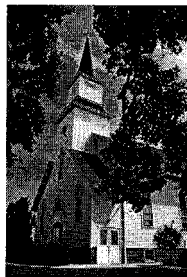
May 11 & 18 Classes for First Communion (attend both)

May 15 – Confirmation

May 22 - Celebration of First Communion

- Pastor Bill

**Mark Your Calendar!
One Worship Service Only
Sunday, May 29**



**9:00 a.m.
Our Savior's Lutheran Church**

**Summer Schedule
Begins June 5**



**8:00 Worship – Faith
9:30 Worship – Our Savior's
(No Sunday School)**

Affirmation of Baptism



The Calamus Lutheran Parish has five confirmands this year: from Our Savior's – Riley Bruns, daughter of Dan and Terina Bruns, Maia Glover, daughter of Shane and Amy Glover and Drake Olson, son of Robert Olson and Denise Olson; from Faith – Caleb Banowetz, son of Larry and Sharyl Banowetz and Karragan Whitman, daughter of Mike and Heather Whitman. The affirming of the baptism vows made for them, when they were infants by parents and sponsors will take place on Pentecost Sunday, May 15, 8:00 a.m. at Faith Lutheran Church.

**LAST DAY OF SUNDAY
SCHOOL IS MAY 15.
Sunday School and Adult Class
will resume
September 11 at Faith.**

**The Noisy Offering will be
Collected on May 15**

The ELCA Disaster Response (emphasizing the Syrian refugee crisis) has been selected by the church councils and committees to be the 2016 recipient of the Noisy Offerings.

**June 2016 Newsletter Items Due
May 20, please. Thanks for your
cooperation!**



At the March Council Meetings

Joint Council:

➤ Worship Committee reported the choir will sing at Wesley Methodist Church, Calamus on May 1 at 10:30 a.m.

➤ Education Committee has reviewed the Vacation Bible School schedule. Volunteers for providing snacks and assisting teachers will be contacted.

➤ Photos of council members, accompanists and the choir director will be taken during the May Joint Council Meeting.

➤ Summer worship schedule will begin June 5: Faith Worship beginning at 8:00 a.m. and Our Savior's Worship beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Faith Council:

➤ Financial reports were approved with a designated balance of \$739.52 and a working balance of \$35,751.71.

➤ Spring Clean-up was rescheduled for 8:00 a.m. on April 16.

➤ A donation of \$50 was approved for the Calamus-Wheatland After Prom event.

Our Savior's Council:

➤ Financial reports were approved with a balance of \$ (554.48).

➤ A list of volunteers to work at funerals is being compiled and the kitchen is being organized with name plates indicating content of cupboards and drawers.

➤ Renters will continue mowing the church lawn.

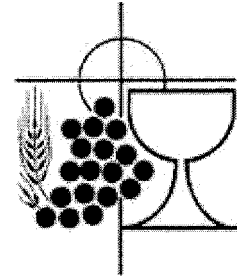
➤ A changing table for babies is now available at Our Savior's.

➤ A door needs to be replaced as it is not closing properly.

Our Savior's Monthly Financial Report February 2016

Beginning Balance.....	\$ 1,931.64
Deposits	\$ 6,349.26
Disbursements.....	\$(8,835.38)
Ending Balance.....	\$ (554.48)

First Communion Classes



First Communion classes will be offered for persons of all ages at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, May 11 and May 18. It is a two-lesson class and you will need to attend both sessions. The May 11 class will be held at Faith Church and the May 18 class at Our Savior's. A DVD, *Sacraments in Action* and the book, *A Place for You*, will be used during class. If your child has questions about Holy Communion we encourage you to have them attend – if they have already had one class it might be helpful if they would take a refresher class. The celebration of First Communion will be on Sunday, May 22.

♫ May Choir Rehearsal

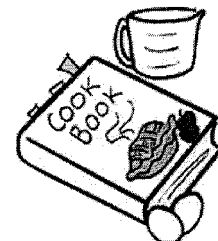
Wednesday, May 11 – 8:00 p.m.

Faith Church ♫

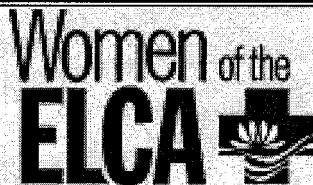


(Choir singing at Wesley United Methodist Church, Sunday, May 1, 10:30)

Looking for a New Recipe?



Our Savior's Cookbook,
filled with delicious recipes is still available—
if interested, please contact
Jason Bousselot
1866 – 265th Street, Calamus



Sisters Across the Generations



"Mary and Elizabeth"

Theme verses – Luke 1:26–56

Lydia Circle

Wednesday, May 18 – 2:00 p.m.

Hostess: Arlene Green

Leader: Pastor Bill

Naomi Circle

Friday, May 20 – 10:00 a.m.

(Crossroads Garden Cafe in DeWitt –

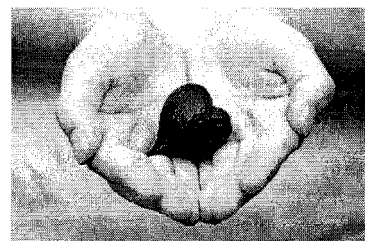
*Bible Study first and then
order from the menu for lunch.*

*Please make your reservation with Jeannene
by Monday, April 11)*

Hostess: Janice Berger

Leader: Diane Christensen

"Acts of Kindness and Love" Monday Bible School



May 2nd ♥ May 9th ♥ May 16th
3:30 - 5:00 at Faith Lutheran Church,
505 2nd Street in Calamus



Children in Kindergarten – Grade 5



Snacks, music, stories, and activities!



Come for fun after school on the
first three Mondays of May.



The school needs parental permission to
have the school buses drop off children
at the church for Bible School.



Registration forms are available at
the church office and
at Cal/Wheat Elementary.

"Coffee & A Little Jesus"



You are invited to the
Women's/Mom's Bible Study, "Coffee & A Little
Jesus." We will meet the 1st Tuesday of the month
at 9:00 a.m. Kids are welcome.

Heather Grau, 1658 – 257th Street, Calamus

May 3 – 9:00 a.m.



If interested, please email me grau.heather@gmail.com

or call me 563-424-0507

You can also follow on Facebook at
Coffee & A Little Jesus

*Open House Graduation Party
Honoring
Makenna Christensen,
daughter of Chad & Colette Christensen*



Saturday, June 4, 4:00–8:00 p.m.

CALCO Building, Calamus

Hope to see you there!

Sunday School Children to Visit Wheatland Manor

The God Squad has planned a visit to Wheatland Manor. So...on Sunday, May 1, the children of the parish will meet at Wheatland Manor during Sunday School time. Parents, please take your children directly to Wheatland Manor at 9:30 instead of to church for Sunday School. Parents are encouraged to stay and help the children deliver May baskets to the residents. It is also important to stay and provide rides back home or to Faith for worship.

Graduating from Calamus/Wheatland High School



Three members of the Calamus Lutheran Parish are graduating from Calamus/Wheatland High School: from Faith – Makenna Christensen, daughter of Chad and Colette Christensen and Austin Rickertsen, son of Brian and Lisa Rickertsen; from Our Savior's – Brodina Boussetot, daughter of Donnie and Janelle Boussetot. Congratulations to you all!

News About Our People

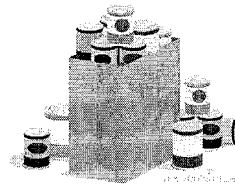


Carsyn Dean, son of Michael Gronewold and Sara Davis, was born on Saturday, March 5. Congratulations to all!



Brayeden Matthew, son of Dylan Boussetot and Kodi Gasper, was born on Monday, April 25. Congratulations to all!

They Need Your Help!



The Carroll Assistance Center is asking your help in getting donations of canned goods, paper products and other food and non-perishable items for the Center. The Center is getting very low on these items and have been rationing these things the last few weeks.

Carroll Assistance Center is open to all income groups. For those who don't qualify for the pantry, but find themselves in need, these donated items are available for them to purchase at very reasonable prices. Please consider making a donation to help those less fortunate. Thank you for your help.

PENTECOST



All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit!

Acts 2.4

"The true living faith which the Holy Spirit instills into the heart simply cannot be idle."

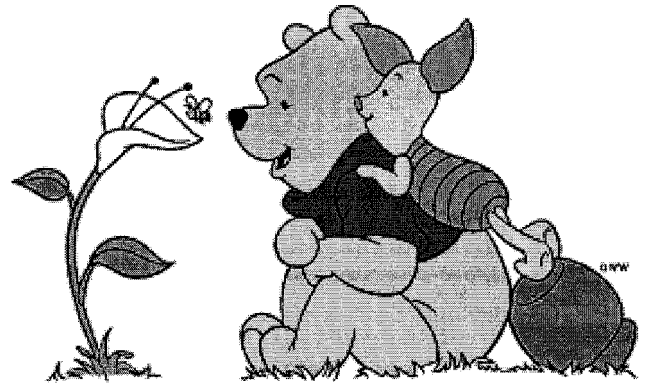
- Martin Luther

Birthdays and Anniversaries

May 2: Bobbie Hesse
 Tim Olson
 May 3: Jean McNeil
 Courtney Knoche
 Heather Grau
 May 4: Nolan Christensen
 May 5: Kale Whitman
 May 6: Robert Voss
 Noah Maske
 Meagan Berger
 May 7: Sarah Koch
 Lans Carstensen
 Alicia O'Donnell
 Ben Untiedt
 Jason Sullivan
 May 8: Jacob Grau
 May 11: Marilyn Schau
 Victoria Cunningham
 May 12: Mark Witte
 May 14: Lois Wilhelm
 May 15: Natalie Tendall
 Brayden Williams
 Nora Glover
 May 16: Randy Behne
 Meggan Septer
 May 17: Logan Bickel
 May 18: Kara Olson
 May 19: Roger Ihns
 Nick Storjohann
 Caylee Boussetot
 Tysen Steffens
 May 21: Doug Boussetot
 Pastor Brenda Peconge
 May 23: Courtni Knudtsen
 Alison Edens
 Emma Olson
 May 24: Keith Steward
 William Schaver
 Kenneith Schaver
 May 26: Yale Christensen
 Amy Glover
 Rusty Porth
 Caden Will
 Austin Hewer
 May 27: Jesse Jackson
 Isabella Spooner
 Brayleigh Schaver
 May 28: Meryne Henning

May 30: Lena Perrone
 Dave Whitman
 Garrett Perrone
 May 31: Lucy Lee-Petersen
 Skye Doerscher
 Karen Eschbach
 ♥
 May 1: Kristin & Roy Schlinkert
 May 7: Daniel & Megan Will
 May 8: Shane & Amy Glover
 May 9: Sheri & Doug Siemen
 May 10: Alice & Kenny Fitzgerald
 May 11: Lance & Wendy Seastrand
 May 13: Eric & Joyce Sands
 May 18: Luke & Jessica Shelton
 Dave & Tammy Olive
 May 20: Dion & Dawn Olson
 Scott & Theresa Grau
 May 24: Kevin & Kim Miller
 May 26: Zach & Rebecca Shorter
 May 31: Ashley & Troy Steffens

If there are errors or omissions in the birthday or anniversary list, please notify the church office.



Piglet:

"How do you spell love?"

Pooh:

"You don't spell it,
you feel it."

- A. A. Milne, *Winnie the Pooh*

MINISTERS FOR MAY 2016

FAITH

Ushers:

Ruth Braet
Donna Petersen
Judy McMahan

Acolytes:

Ethan Wilhelm

Altar Ministry:

Ruth Braet
Annette Braet

Communion Assistant:

Ruth Braet

Greeter:

May 1: Judy McMahan
May 8: Shirley Ferguson
May 15: Diane Christensen
May 22: Rusty Porth
May 29: (One Service Only at Our Savior's)

Lectors:

May 1: Judy McMahan
May 8: Diane Christensen
May 15: Ruth Braet
May 22: Rusty Porth
May 29: (One Service Only at Our Savior's)

OUR SAVIOR'S

Ushers:

Mark Olson
Shane Glover

Acolyte:

Drake Olson

Communion Assistant:

Cindy Burke

Lector:

May 1: Jason Boussetot
May 8: Mark Olson
May 15: Brian Boussetot
May 22: Marcia Edens
May 29: Cindy Burke

Cleaners:

Ray and Deb Detlefs

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.

Mark Your Calendar!

One Worship Service Only

May 29 ~ 9:00 a.m.

Our Savior's Church

Regular Schedule Resumes June 5:

Faith Worship – 8:00 ~ ~ ~ Our Savior's – 9:30

MAY 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 God Squad Bake Sale	2 3:30-5:00 Bible School – Faith "Acts of Kindness" Theme	3	4 6:00 – 7:30 Confirmation Class - F	5	6 Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly, Coralville IA	7 Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly, Coralville IA
8 8:00 Worship – F 9:25 SS/GS/AC – OS 10:30 Worship - OS	9 3:30-5:00 Bible School – Faith "Acts of Kindness" Theme	10 7:00 Committee Night - F	11 6:30 First Communion Class – F 8:00 Choir Rehearsal - F	12 6:00 Worship Committee – F 7:00 Joint Council - F	13	14
15 Pentecost Noisy Offering	16 3:30-5:00 Bible School – Faith "Acts of Kindness" Theme	17	18 2:00 Lydia Circle H-Arlene Green L-Pastor Bill 6:30 First Communion Class-OS	19 Newsletter Items for June Newsletter Due	20 10:00 Naomi Circle Crossroads Garden Cafe H-Janice Berger L-Diane Christensen	21
22 8:00 Worship – F 9:25 SS/GS/AC – OS 10:30 Worship - OS	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 ONE WORSHIP SERVICE ONLY 9:00 Worship - OS	30 Memorial Day	31				

"Where Do I Go?"

Ken Medema is almost totally blind, but he is a man of great spiritual vision. He wrote a song directed at the church that contains several pointed questions. He writes,

“If this is not the place where tears are understood,
where can I go to cry?

If this is not the place where my spirit can take wing,
where do I go to fly?

If this is not the place where my questions can be asked,
where do I go to seek?

If this is not the place where my feelings can be heard,
where do I go to speak?

If this is not the place where you accept me just as I am,
where do I go to be free?

If this is not the place where I can try and grow and love,
where do I go to be just me?”

What great questions! The church is intended to be a safe place where we can be ourselves without fear of judgment. It is intended to be a place where people truly love and accept one another.