

Faith Lutheran
505 2nd Street

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



Our Savior's
2589 190th Avenue

Volume 29

DECEMBER 2016

Number 12

Pastor's View

Advent – Thanksgiving is over and Advent is started. They seem to be the forgotten celebrations. The "X"-mas holiday music has started. This is silly music that is supposed to put us in the "x"-mas buying spirit. I am a hold out for real Christmas music and that funny season called Advent. Advent is the story about the coming of Christ Jesus. One little part sets us up for the birth of Christ. The rest of Advent tells the story of the coming of an adult Jesus who is King and will redeem the creation and the world.

Our worship theme this Advent is based on the following:

1) Spiritual worship, 2) Prayer, 3) Meditation and 4) Coming (birth).

Worship is family friendly; supper at 6 p.m., worship at 7 and ready to go home by 7:35 (give or take a little). Make plans to attend. (Confirmants are required to attend.)

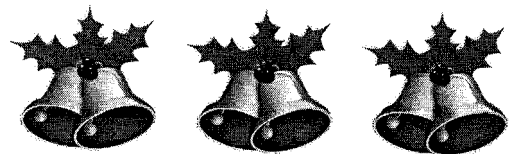
Christmas – Advent demands that we wait for Christmas to come. It is that waiting that drives many people to push the end of Christmas; to even Christmas afternoon. Our "X"-mas music and shopping days left adds to the end of Christmas. I like the wait. I like to celebrate Christmas starting Christmas afternoon. I like the power of Christmas music that tells the story of Christ starting

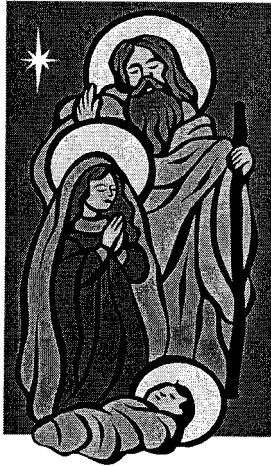
when Christmas starts. It may look like I believe in "Bah Humbug." But really I like the focus to be on God and God's gift to us. Not our gifts to ourselves. So when you see me in a happy mood after Christmas day you now understand my point of view.

As you give Christmas gifts this year please remember that the ELCA has some wonderful programs to support; hunger, refugees, and animals to start a new life. Good stuff to support.

Check the calendar or bulletin for worship times on Sunday School Christmas program, Christmas Eve and one service only on Christmas Day.

Christmas Blessing – Jane and I would like to wish you a wonderful Christmas season this year. We would like to see God's Blessing fall on you like a warm spring rain. We pray that you will have eyes to see what God is doing in your life, right now and in the future. You all have been a blessing to us this past year. God bless our ministry together.





**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service**
Our Savior's Lutheran Church
9:00 p.m.

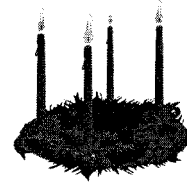


Christmas Day Worship
Faith Lutheran Church
9:00 a.m.

One Worship Service Only
January 1, 2017
9:00 a.m.
Our Savior's Lutheran Church

**No Sunday School,
God Squad or Adult Class**
on December 25 or January 1
Classes resume January 8, 2017

Midweek Advent Worship Schedule



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.

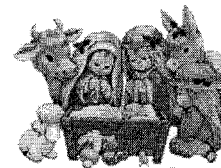
To help us prepare for the birth of Christ, in addition to Sunday worship, we will have mid-week Advent services on Wednesday evenings.

November 30 & December 7
Our Savior's Church – 7:00 p.m.



December 14 & 21
Faith Church – 7:00 p.m.
*(A meal will be served at 6:00 p.m.
before each Advent Service)*

Children's Program "Gift of Love"



The children's program titled "Gift of Love" will be presented during the 10:30 worship at Faith on Sunday, December 18.

The first two rehearsals for the program will be at 5:45 pm on Wednesday, November 30, and 5:45 pm on Wednesday, December 7, at Our Savior's. The final two rehearsals will be at Faith on Wednesday, December 14, at 5:45 pm and Saturday, December 17, at 9:00 am. Children are invited to share their musical talents during the program's prelude by preparing a vocal or instrumental solo.



At the November Council Meetings

Joint Council:

- Because the old plan no longer applies to Pastor's insurance plan, a new plan for 2017 was approved at a total pretax cost of \$900 per congregation.
- The CD/DVD drive on Pastor's laptop was replaced by Brian Tulley.
- The worship committee reviewed all upcoming worship services.
- Next Worship Committee meeting will be held on December 14 at 6PM at Faith during the Advent supper.
- Approximately 50 people attended the parish pancake breakfast on Reformation Sunday.
- The Thanksgiving Supper is organized and will be held after the 5PM worship on November 20.
- Children's Christmas program will be at 10:30AM on December 18 at Faith Church.
- Sunday School and Adult Class will not meet on December 25 or January 1.
- The new copier will be installed on November 14 with Jeannene, Jane Runaas and Pastor receiving training.
- Jeannene Boussetot announced her retirement as of May 28, 2017. She has served as Parish Secretary since 1988. She will outline a list of duties and assist in training the new secretary. The Parish Coordinating Committee will draft a job description and candidate qualifications. The goal is to fill the position by March or April 2017.
- An invitation and announcement of the Thanksgiving worship will be placed in *The Observer* at a total cost of \$79.90.
- Donations for the Advent meals will be given to the Carroll Assistance Center.
- November 30 and December 7 Advent meals will be hosted by Our Savior's; December 14 meal will be hosted by the God Squad at Faith Church and December 21 meal will be hosted by Faith Church.
- Next meeting will be held on December 15, 2016 at Our Savior's at 7:00PM.

Faith Council:

- Financial reports were approved with a designated balance of \$1,445.97 and a working balance of \$42,959.80.
- Brian Tulley presented a quote from

Window World to replace entire window system above the entry doors. This would include metal supports with 12 panes - the upper 6 are plain glass and the lower 6 would be tempered glass. Metal work would match doors. A second quote will be sought from another source. The altar windows also need to be caulked. Both jobs would be scheduled for February or March of 2017.

- Keith Gasper will be contacted about the replacement of an element in a refrigerator in the church kitchen.
- The parsonage siding project is nearing the installment date per the contractor's schedule.

Our Savior's Council:

- Approved financial reports with a balance of \$2,648.28.
- New batteries were put in the wireless microphone and it is working. The foam on the headset may need to be replaced.
- The purchase of a weed trimmer will be postponed until spring.
- Sign-up sheets will be passed to serve the November 30 and December 7 Advent meals.

Our Savior's Monthly Financial Report

October 2016

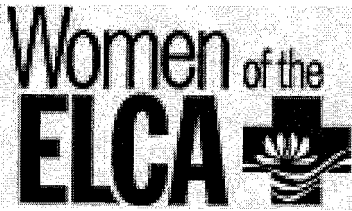
Beginning Balance.....	\$ (1,185.71)
Deposits	\$ 9,374.53
Disbursements.....	\$ (5,540.54)
Ending Balance	\$ 2,648.28

2017 Annual Meeting Preparations

Annual meetings are just around the corner! **Committee and organization reports for the congregations' annual reports are due in the church office by December 20, 2016.** These reports include: Pastor's report; Council Presidents; all committees (Education, Stewardship, Christian Outreach, Memorial and Gifts, Property and Management); Our Savior's Cemetery; and God Squad.

Financial reports, budgets and audit reports for the congregations are due in the church office by January 20, 2017. Thank You!





"Advent is a Time of Darkness & Possibility"



"Be still, and know that I am God."

- Psalm 46:10A

Friday, December 16 – 10:00 a.m.
Squiers Manor
418 W. Pleasant Street, Maquoketa
Leader: Lois Wessels

*We will meet at Faith parking lot at 9:30 a.m. for
those who would like to carpool.
Reservations are to be called in to the church office
by Friday, December 9 ~ 246-2622*



The family of Meryne Henning would like to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers and support during Meryne's hospital stay and passing. Special thanks to Pastor Bill, Jeannene, Diane, Terri, Karen Porth and the choir for the beautiful service. We'd also like to thank all those who donated food, served the meal or helped with the funeral service in any way. Because of the generosity of so many, we were able to designate a large portion of the memorial funds to the church, Camp Courageous, the Palliative Care Unit at the University of Iowa Hospitals and other wonderful organizations.

Daryl, Doreen, Karna, Jeff, Kevin, Jolene & Families

News About Our People



Amelia Ann, daughter of Thomas and Rebecca Barnes, by means of Holy Baptism, was welcomed into the family of God and the membership of Faith Lutheran Church on November 13, 2016. Amelia's sponsors were Darin Braet and Kevin and Bethany Oberfoell.



Thomas Ray, son of Matt and Julie Olson, by means of Holy Baptism, was welcomed into the family of God and the membership of Our Savior's Lutheran Church on November 20, 2016. Tommy's sponsors were William Clark and Melissa Eversmeyer.



Conrad Dosland and Elizabeth Marvin were married at Eagle Point Lodge, Clinton, Iowa, on November 4, 2016.



Meryne Henning passed away on Friday, November 4, 2016. A funeral service was held on Monday, November 7, 2016 at Faith Church.

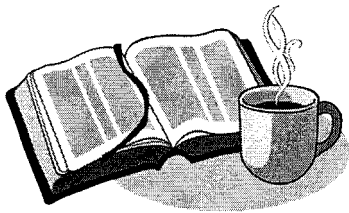
Angel Tree Time



The God Squad will soon be shopping for our local Angel Tree. We have received 20 Angel Tree names—if you are interested in either shopping for an angel or making a donation and have the God Squad shop for you, please contact Ashley Steffens quickly.

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

"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
December 6 – 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

♪ December Choir Rehearsals ♪



Wednesdays, December 7, 14 and 21,
following

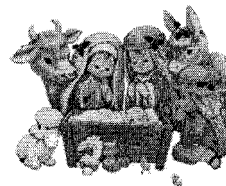
7:00 p.m. Midweek Advent Worship at
the church where we are
having our worship.



Come join us—we'd love to have you!

♪ Diane Christensen

Christmas Program Rehearsal



5:45 p.m. Wednesday,
November 30 & December 7
Our Savior's Church



5:45 p.m. Wednesday,
December 14 at Faith Church



9:00 a.m. Saturday,
December 17 at Faith Church

Please Make Every Effort To Attend!

Would You Like To...

The 2017 lists for lectors, ushers, communion assistants, greeters (Faith only), altar ministry (Faith only) and cleaners (Our Savior' only) will soon be compiled. If anyone would like to be added to or removed from the ministry assistants lists, please let one of the following people from your congregation know - at Our Savior's: Dan Burke, Jason Boussetot, Deb Detlefs, and Linda Whitman; at Faith: Diane Christensen, Andrea Shelton, Ashley Steffens and Terri Boussetot. Thank you to all those who continue to assist in these ministries!

Noisy Offering to be Collected December 11



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.



Find us on
Facebook

Calamus Lutheran Parish
is now on Facebook.
Find Us! Like Us! Comment Us!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- December 1: Dan Burke
 December 2: Bob Barnard
 December 4: Alyssa McElmeel
 Jackson Wieck
 December 5: Michele Bliler
 December 8: Dale Gronewold
 Cindy Burke
 December 9: Jason Boussetot
 Brooklyn Calef
 Jeff Griebel
 Maddon Hoker
 December 10: Dion Olson
 Lucas Hayes
 December 11: Josh Jacobi
 Michael Gronewold
 Alex Rickertsen
 December 13: Camdon Boussetot
 Brandon McMahan
 December 14: Andy Bickel
 Erin Bickel
 Drake Mayerhofer
 December 16: Andrea Carstensen
 December 17: Hazel Richards
 Brenda Hayes
 Andrew Grau
 Teisha Jacobi
 December 18: Meghan Tendall
 Alexander Harkness
 December 19: Chloe Gronewold
 December 20: Brenda Christensen
 December 22: David Braet
 Michelle Fitzgerald
 Emily Elsner
 Holli Mosher
 December 23: Savannah Elias
 Sharon Boussetot
 Henry Mueller
 December 24: Carter Henning
 December 28: Kristin Schlinkert
 Karragan Whitman
 Patricia King
 Ryan Dick
 December 29: John Matthews II
 Lydia Whitman
 December 30: Sheri Siemen
 Bobby Thomas
 Marilyn Steward



December 2: Dirk & Annette Braet

December 16: Pastor Bill & Jane Runaas

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

Meals of Love

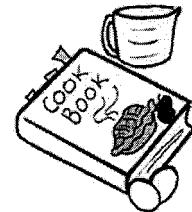


Working together to spread Jesus' Love, by providing homemade meals to those in our church who are experiencing life changing events; new moms, surgery, illness/injury recovery, death in the family, etc.

If you would be interested in being contacted to make a freezable meal please contact Heather Grau at 563-424-0507 or grau.heather@gmail.com, and provide your name and best means to contact. Or there will be sign up sheets at both churches. Our goal is to provide an individual/family 3-5 home cooked meals.

There are sign-up sheets in the narthex of each church.

Need a Christmas Gift Idea?



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



"Each of us is an innkeeper who decides if there is room for Jesus."

- Neal Marwell

MINISTERS FOR DECEMBER 2016

FAITH

Ushers:

Mark Witte
Dirk Braet
Brian Tulley
Gary Braet

Acolytes:

Anne Tulley

Altar Ministry:

Larry & Sharyl Banowetz Family

Communion Assistant:

Brian Tulley

Greeter:

December 4: Diane Wilhelm
December 11: Dirk Braet
December 18: Terri Boussetot
December 25: Andrea Shelton

Lectors:

December 4: Mark Witte
December 11: Marsha Witte
December 18: Brian Tulley
December 25: Dirk Braet

OUR SAVIOR'S

Ushers:

Mark Olson
Art Boussetot

Acolyte:

Chase Knoche

Communion Assistant:

Brian Boussetot

Lector:

December 4: Brian Boussetot
December 11: Marcia Edens
December 18: Cindy Burke
December 25: (One Service at Faith)

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.

One Service Only

Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day

Faith Lutheran Church – 9:00 a.m.

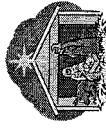


Sunday, January 1, 2017

New Year's Day

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

DECEMBER 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 SS/AC – F 10:30 Worship - F	5	6 9:00 "coffee & a Little Bit of Jesus" Bible Study at Heather Grau's 1658 – 257th Street Calamus	7 5:45 Program Practice – OS 6:00 Advent Meal – OS 7:00 Advent Worship – OS Choir Follows	80 7:00 Joint Council - OS	9	10
11 Noisy Offering 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 SS/AC – F 10:30 Worship - F	12	13	14 5:45 Program Practice - F 6:00 Advent Meal – F 6:00 Worship Committee - F 7:00 Advent Worship – F Choir Follows	15 7:00 Joint Council - OS	16 10:00 Women's Bible Study at Squiers Manor, Maquoketa (Car pool at 9:30 from Faith parking lot)	17 9:00 Final dress rehearsal for Christmas Program - F
18 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 SS/AC – F 10:30 Christmas Sunday School Program - F	19	20	21 6:00 Advent Meal – F 7:00 Advent Worship – F Choir Follows	22	23	24  9:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - OS
25 9:00 Christmas Day Worship - F	26	27	28 No Confirmation Class	29	30	31

The Littlest King

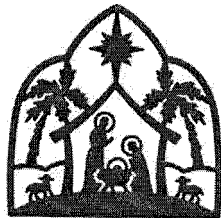
by Lois Wessels

On a dark cold winter night
In a stable far away
A blessed child was born
In a manger filled with hay.

His mother knows this special child
Has been give to her to love
Destined to be the light of the world
Sent to earth from God above.

She knows that he is not really hers
And she will not have him for long
She prays for strength to do God's will
As she listens to the angel's song.

So Mary holds her little boy close
But her eyes are sad as she smiles down
At the baby she cradles against her heart
This tiny King without a crown.



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.
319-231-5262**



**8:00 A.M. Sunday Worship
Our Savior's Lutheran Church
2589 – 190th Avenue, rural Calamus**



**9:25 A.M. Sunday School/Adult Class
Faith Lutheran Church**



**10:30 A.M. Sunday Worship
Faith Lutheran Church
505 Second Street, town of Calamus**

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



*"Let's approach Christmas
with an expectant hush,
rather than a last-minute rush."*