

Faith Lutheran 505 2nd Street

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



Our Savior's 2589 190th Avenue

Volume 26

JANUARY 2013

Number 1

Pastor Writes

For almost 12 years I have been preaching in this very pulpit. Never before have I had such a terrible time figuring out what to say to you as today. Never before have I had such difficulty in finding the appropriate words to preach *grace*. I am glad most of our children are attending second service for the Children's Program, because there are some things brought up in this sermon that might be confusing to them.

Of course, this is all in light of Friday's school shooting in Connecticut. Sadly, this event is not horribly shocking to Americans, because we've seen this before...which makes it even worse. I stopped in at the bank in DeWitt on Friday, where I saw the Breaking News on the TV, of the children running from the school, of police surrounding the building, of crying parents searching for their kids...I finally left, because, frankly, I felt like I was going to throw up.

I drove home, got on the computer and read several reports on the terrible incident. I then opened up a Word document to write this sermon. The screen was blank, and the cursor blinked at me, as if to mock me. I had nothing to say. I had nothing to write. I didn't want to think about God with those images of the kids still fresh in my mind. It was the first time that had ever happened to me. All I felt was sick.

Sandy Hook Elementary School is a school for grades kindergarten through 4th grade, kids aged roughly from 5-10 years of age. The gunman was apparently in his 20's, who finally shot himself, bringing the total loss of life to 27. Next to the 2007 shooting at Virginia Tech, this is the worst school shooting this country has ever seen. All random shootings are nightmarish—the ones at malls or movie theaters and such—but this is a school for

little kids. Ages 5-10. Little kids. An act of pure evil. I still feel sick.

This past fall, I held a first communion class for the fifth graders of this parish. They received their First Communion on Reformation Sunday, if you recall. Every class of first communion kids is special to me, but this one was even more special, because these were the first kids I baptized. The honor and privilege I felt the day they first received the sacrament of Holy Communion is indescribable. I felt, in some odd way, like a parent to all of them. God has blessed me to have played a role in both sacraments—baptism and communion—in the lives of these kids. On any given Sunday, when I look out over the congregation and see kids in the fifth grade and below, I rejoice that I have baptized them into God's church, that God has allowed my hand to pour water over their heads. I have the best job in the whole wide world.

Our first communion class is offered to fifth graders. This is the age range of the kids who went through hell on Friday...Little ones, kids under fifth grade, kids who are the same age as my kids. I cannot even wrap my head around the whole thing...what if that happened here? We think our community is safe, too. What about the parents of those little victims? What about the spouses of the staff that died? What about the family of the gunman?

What if they were all sitting here today, in these pews, waiting to hear a word of grace? What would I say? Could I preach the same sermon to the parents of those dead children, the survivors of the teachers who were shot, the relatives of the man who was responsible for the whole cursed thing? (continued on next page)

(continued from front page)

This is where the rubber hits the road. Is grace *grace* for everybody? Or is God's grace only for some, namely the victims, but not the perpetrators? I fear for the family of the gunman, for the wrath that is about to descend on them. What is Christmas for a parent whose child was just shot in school? What is Christmas for the mother of that gunman?

This is how I know I am not God. Not that I ever really suffer from the illusion of being God, but things like this make me thank God I am not God. Because if I were, no hell would be hot enough for that gunman, and for anyone who hurt kids. If one—or all—of my sons were shot that day, I know I would have a hard time remembering the unconditional grace of God that we Lutherans hold so dear. But I am not God, thank God.

God's grace, and God's justice, are altogether different than our idea of grace and justice. God *had* to enter our world, because human instinct is to take revenge. We cling to "an eye for an eye" instead of "love your enemies." But we Lutherans confess and believe that grace is grace, that Jesus comes at Christmas time for all people, for the little ones who died, for their grieving families, for the gunman and his grieving family, for that community of Newtown, for our community, and for communities around the world, all wondering the same thing, "Are we next?"

We confess and believe that Jesus was born and died to save all people from hell and death. All people....remember the words from Isaiah we heard last week—all people shall see the glory of God? If we meant it last week, we must mean it this week, as well.

These are words I don't feel much like saying today, though, if I am brutally honest with you. I know we confess these things, and I do believe them, but when I think of those little kids at that school, I have a hard time saying the words right now...when I put my kids to bed and think of those parents who don't get to do that anymore, I have a hard time remembering words like grace and mercy...but still we say them, because deep down, we believe those words, even if we don't like those words sometimes.

Some people say it's extra bad that this happened at Christmas time, and on one hand, they are right. On the other hand, the timing just shows us how much we need Jesus to be born...how much we need Jesus to grow up and die on the

cross...how much we need him to fight Satan and win...how much we need him to fill his heaven with a grace we simply cannot fathom, with a forgiveness we cannot understand, with a mercy we ourselves resist.

This is one of those times when we let God be God, and we let us be us. We are angry and scared, and maybe even our faith is rocked to the core. That's ok. We are allowed to be angry and scared and to shake the fist at God and at this world that we ourselves have broken...

In the good times, and in the bad, God will be God...he comes at Christmas to bring about the healing this world desperately needs, to bring about his justice, to usher in his day of redemption. And on the last day he will judge all people, you and me and that gunman and those little kids...and somehow, miraculously, there's a heaven big enough to hold us all. In the end, God's Christmas grace pours down over every single person ever created, especially over those wretched ones who harm and hurt and kill, because, I guess they need it most.

Jesus, come quickly, for we need you now more than ever before.

- Preached by Pastor Sarah Kretzmann on Sunday, December 16, 2012 and requested to be printed

Healer of Our Every Ill by Marty Haugen

Healer of our ev'ry ill, light of each tomorrow, give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.

You who know our fears and sadness, grace us with your peace and gladness; Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts.

In the pain and joy beholding how your grace is still unfolding, give us all your vision, God of love.

Give us strength to love each other, ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother; Spirit of all kindness, be our guide.

You who know each thought and feeling, teach us all your way of healing; Spirit of compassion, fill each heart.



At the December Council Meetings

Joint Council:

- ➤ Worship Committee Christmas worship services have been finalized; Wedding policy and guidelines will be reviewed; Six weddings are scheduled for 2013; Two classes for couples to be married this summer will be scheduled by Pastor Sarah and Jason; Future ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve services will be held at Faith or Our Savior's due to space restriction at the Methodist Church the 2013 meal will be at Faith;
- Stewardship/Outreach Committee
 Approximately 75 people were served at
 the Thanksgiving meal; Leftover food was
 delivered to the Victory Center in Clinton by Mark
 and Marsha Witte; Dirk Braet delivered the
 offering of collected canned goods/dry goods to the
 Carroll Assistance Center;
- ➤ Education Committee the Christmas program was finalized;
- ➤ Reminders were given regarding the due dates of reports for the annual meetings;
- ➤ Jason Bousselot will purchase Photo directory software at a cost of \$150, Dan Burke volunteered to do the computer work, Shane Glover has volunteered to do the photography and Terri Bousselot volunteered to be the contact person, communicate information and monitor progress; Photos are due May 1, 2013 and project completion date is June 1, 2013;
- > Dan Burke will research cost of a printer with a fax and a stand-alone fax machine:
- ➤ Pastor Sarah's compensation package and the secretary's salary were approved for presentation to the congregations at the annual meetings;
- ➤ Thrivent reported "Treat the Pantries" collected \$4,425 with \$3,825 from participating churches and \$1,600 from Thrivent.

Faith Council:

- Financial reports were approved with a designated balance of \$10,358.29 and a working balance of \$6,676.05;
- > Two ductless air conditioning units for the sanctuary have arrived and the unit wiring and 100 AMP service will be scheduled for installation;
- > Four fire extinguishers have been installed throughout the church;
 - The parsonage loan has been paid in full;

- ➤ The front door of the church must be manually locked with a key in order to completely lock the door use of the allen key will not secure it;
- ➤ Jodee Overkamp submitted her immediate resignation from her contract for church cleaning council will seek a replacement service;
- ➤ Four replacement ceiling fans have been ordered for the sanctuary;
- ➤ In order to increase the amount of light and uniform coverage, provide more efficient energy use and reduce the frequency of replacing bulbs, research is being done for replacement of the original sanctuary lighting update to be provided at 2013 annual meeting.

Our Savior's Council:

- > Prospective renters for the parsonage are being interviewed;
- ➤ Brian Bousselot has repaired the front doors of the church building;
- ➤ There was no new information regarding the cemetery;
- > The treasurer's report and budget were reviewed and discussed.

Our Savior's Monthly Financial Report November 2012

Beginning Balance	\$	49.80
Deposits		
Disbursements		•
Ending Balance	\$((3,146.55)

2013 Council and Committee Retreat Planned

All council members and committee members (including Property Committee), please mark your calendar for Saturday, February 2, 2013. A retreat has been scheduled for you from 9:00 – noon at Faith Church. Please make every effort to attend.

Sunday School and Adult Classes resume January 6, 2013, 9:25 a.m. at Faith Church

OUR SAVIOR'S CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 27, 2013 Following 8:00 a.m. Worship

FAITH CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 27, 2013 Following 10:30 a.m. Worship

Annual Meeting Preparations

Annual meetings are just around the corner! Committee and organization reports for the congregations' annual reports were due in the church office December 21, 2012. If you have not already done so, please turn these reports in to the office. These reports include: Council Presidents; all committees (Education, Stewardship, Christian Outreach, Memorial and Gifts, Property and Management); Our Savior's Cemetery; and Luther League.

Financial reports, budgets and audit reports for the congregations are due in the church office by January 21, 2013. Thank You!

2013 Ministry Lists to be Compiled

The worship committees are compiling the lists for lectors, ushers, communion assistants, greeters (Faith only), altar ministry (Faith only) and cleaners (Our Savior' only) and Sunday morning care for Pastor's boys. If anyone would like to be added to or removed from the ministry assistants lists, please let someone on your respective worship committee know - at Our Savior's: Jason Bousselot, Deb Detlefs, and Linda Whitman; at Faith: Diane Christensen, Andrea Shelton and Terri Bousselot. Thank you to all those who continue to assist in these ministries!

February Newsletter Items Due January 21, please.
Thanks for your cooperation!

The Noisy Offering will be received January 20

Acolyte Training

Wednesday, January 9, 2013, 7:45 p.m. at Faith Church will be a time for those who are serving as acolytes for the first time to learn their new responsibilities. Acolyte assignments are being made for the new year so please make every attempt to be at this session.

Choir Rehearsal A

Wednesday, January 16 7:30 p.m. – Faith Church

Come join us—we'd love to have you!

Diane Christensen

News About Our People



Chris Griebel and ReBecca Hamm were married at Faith Lutheran Church on December 1.

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Emily Ann, daughter of Pat and Heather Grau, through Holy Baptism, was welcomed into the family of God and the membership of Faith Lutheran Church on December 2. Emily's sponsors were Megan Danner and Collin Morehouse.

B

Violet Ann, daughter of Josh and Kristi Jacobs, through Holy Baptism, was welcomed into the family of God and the membership of Faith Lutheran Church on December 9. Violet's sponsors were Luke Shelton, Jessica Muhl and Chad and Trista Weinmaser.

B

Alexander Felix, son of Grant and Katrina Harkness, was born on December 18.

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Birthdays and Anniversaries

Jan 1: Kenneth Eschbach
Jan 2: David Olson
Jan 3: Isaac Wilhelm
Jan 4: Dirk Braet

Ethan Wilhelm

Jan 8: Joan Shelton Alec Olson

Shelly Mayerhofer

Jan 10: Pastor Sarah Kretzmann

Wyatt Easterday

Jan 13: Steve Hansen

Blake Elias

Pastor Marv Robeck

Noah Mullin

Junior Homrighausen

Jan 15: Gerry Wulf
Jan 17: Vicki Garrett
Jan 18: Anne Tulley
Jan 19: Gary Braet
Jan 20: Austin Henning

Jan 21: Herb Wilhelm
Jody Schnede-Henning

Jan 22: Arlene Green Kevin Henning David Bousselot

Jan 23: Jessica Schroeder

Noelle Steines

Jan 25: Doug Willet Jan 26: Keegan Allen

Audrey Witte

Jan 27: Rick Olson

Jan 28: Chris Morehead

Brody Koch

Jan 30: Dylan Bousselot

Michele Calef

Jan 10: Marlon & Sandy Olson

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

Sunday Morning Child Care for Christian, Jacob & Philip

January 6: Julie Gronewold January 13: Hal & Andrea Shelton

January 20: Marsha/Alison Edens, Mark Olson

January 27: Boys with Nate



GATHERED BY GOD

"Getting Away"

"The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, 'Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.' For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat."

- Mark 6:30—31

Lydia Circle

Wednesday, January 16, 2:00 p.m. Hostess: Sharon Bousselot

Leader: Kay Olson

Naomi Circle

Friday, January 18, 9:00 a.m.

Hostess: Joan Shelton Leader: Marsha Witte

Home Delivered Meals to Over-55 Citizens

Generations Area Agency on Aging, as a part of the Federal Older Americans Act Nutrition Program will provide a home-delivered meal to meet the nutritional needs of seniors. At the end of each month you will receive a statement for the number of meals you have received with a request for a suggested donation of \$3.25 per meal – the actual cost of the meal is \$7.71. Individual donations are encouraged by anyone to help with the cost. You may send checks to: Davenport Office Generations, 935 East 53rd Street, Davenport, Iowa 52807.

Meals delivered to the home are available on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. To receive meals or have questions answered, please contact the Scott County Davenport Office Generations, 1-800-892-9085 or 1-563-324-9085. Email address is

josborn@genage.org or genage@genage.org.

(See insert on following page for January's menus. There are GenAge Cafes open daily in the towns listed on the menu if you prefer going out to eat.)



GENAGE CAFÉ MENU - JANUARY 2013

NOON MEAL CLINTON & SCOTT COUNTIES SUGGESTED DONATION \$ 3.00 CAFÉ DINING, \$ 3.25 HOME DELIVERED

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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
December 31) New Years Eve Holiday All GenAge Cafes Closed . No Home Delivered Meals Delivered	1) New Years Day Holiday All GenAge Cafes Closed No Home Delivered Delivered	2) Happy Birthday 3 Oz Andy's Meatloaf ½ C Smashed Potatoes W/White Gravy ½ C Peas With Pearl Onions 1 Wheat Dinner Roll 1 Cupcake W/lcing No Ice Cream — Served Friday	3) 3 Oz Chicken Breast On Wheat Bun W/ Mayo 1 Baked Potato 1 C Popeye's Favorite Spinach Salad % C Pineapple 1 Carnival Cookie	4) 3 Oz Swiss Steak % C Hash Brown Casserole % C Bugs Bunny Parmesan Carrots 1 Wheat Dinner Roll 1 Pc Blueberry Pie 4 Oz Ice Cream
7) 3 Oz Pork Loin W/Gravy ½ C Mashed Potatoes ½ C California Blend 1 Pc Rye Bread 1 Pc Lemon Meringue Pie	8) 1 C Chicken and Noodles 1 C Tossed Salad W/ Dressing 1 Wheat Dinner Roll 1/2 C Peaches 2 Fig Newton's	9) 1 Loose Meat Sandwich On Wheat Bun W/ Ketchup And Mustard 12 C Baked Beans 12 C Coleslaw 13 C Pears 14 C Line Jell-O	10) 3 Oz Pot Roast With Onions % C Pot Roast Potatoes 1 C Pot Roast Vegetables 1 Biscuit W/ Honey 1 Rice Crispy Treat 4 Oz Cranberry Juice	11) 1 C Spaghetti W/Meat Sauce (1/2 C Meat, 1/2 C Noodles) 1 C Big Bowl Of Tuscan Greens 1 Breadstick 1/2 C Vanilla Pudding
14) 3 Oz. Savory Mushroom Chicken Breast % Cup Confetti Wild Rice % C. Garden Salad with Assorted dressings % C. Strawberry Applesauce 1 Pc. Whole Wheat Bread	15) 3 Oz Philly Steak Sandwich 1 Oz Slice Of Swiss Cheese ½ C Pasta Salad ½ C Peas 1 Pc Wheat Bun ½ C Pudding Parfait	16) 3 Oz Turkey W/ Gravy % C Mashed Potatoes 1/3 C Stuffing % C Mixed Vegetables % C Cranberry Star Salad 1 Pc Pumpkin Pie	17) 1 C Beef Stroganoff (½ C Noodles, ½ C Beef) ½ C Italian Vegetables 1 Pc Pumpernickel Bread ½ C. German Fruit Salad Basic Taste	18) 3 oz. Oven Fried Chicken 3 oz. Oven Fried Chicken 3 C Potato Salad 2 C. Lima Beans 1 Banana 1 Morning Glory Muffin
21) 4 Oz. Taco Bake 5 C. Brown Rice 7 C. Salsa 7 C. Tomato/Lettuce Mix 1 Tortilla 1 Chocolate Chip Cookie	Golden Wedding Solden Wedding Soz Pork Chop WiGravy C Mashed Potatoes C Broccoil-Bacon Salad T's C Tropical Fruit T Pc Chocolate Cream Pie	23) 2 Oz Meatballs In Marinara On Hotdog Bun 1 Oz Shredded Mozzarella Cheese 1/2 C Brussell Sprouts 1/3 C Autumn Apple Salad 1 Snicker dondle Cookle	24) 4 Oz Fish Wedge On Wheat Bun W/ Tarter Sauce ½ C Cottage Cheese ½ C Peaches 1 Pc Carrot Cake	25) 3 Oz Ham 3 Oz Ham 3 C. Sodexo Sweet Potato Casserole 3 C. Popeye's Spinach Salad 3 C. Fruit Cocktail 1 Pumpkin Bar
28)) 3 Oz Sweet-N-Sour Chicken 4 C Rice 7 C Asian Vegetables 1 Wheat Dinner Roll 1 Fortune Cookie 7 C Apricots	29) 3 Oz Andy's Meatloaf 34 C Cheese Potato Puffs 25 C Waldorf Salad 1 Wheat Dinner Roll 1 Sugar Cookie	30) 3 Oz. Sloppy Joe On Wheat Bun 3 C. Potato Wedges 4 C. Corn 7 Orange Dreamcicle Fruit Salad	31) 3 Oz. Liver & Onions Or 1 Pork Tenderloin On Wheat Bun WiMayo % C. Mashed Potatoes W/Gravy % C. Green Beans 1 Pc. Wheat Bread 1 Pc. Boston Cream Pie	
MENUS MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE SEE ORIGINAL FOR RD SIGNATURE	Bethel AME 322-6622 Buffalo 381-4594 Cumberland 332-9339 Edgewater on Third 324-9085 Eldridge 285-8415 Friendly House 323-1821	Kimberly (CASI) 386-7477 Le Claire 289-4371 Luther Crest 388-8543 Luther Knoll 449-8318 Luther Manor 332-9407 Luther Tower 355-3121 New Hope 391-0236	Roosevelt 888-2056 Spring Village 344-9463 Spruce Hills 324-9085 Temple Baptist 386-0874 Walcott 284-6122	Camanche 259-8011 DeWitt 659-5624 Park Tower 242-4222 Prairie Village 242-2085 Wheatland 374-1011 Chancy – HDM 242-5180





MINISTERS FOR JANUARY 2013

FAITH

Ushers:

Daryl Henning Doreen Henning Blaine Henning

Kayla Henning/Ashley Steffens

Acolytes:

Ki Sosa

Karragan Whitman

Altar Ministry:

Larry & Sharyl Banowetz Family

Communion Assistant:

Ruth Braet

Greeter:

January 6: Joan Shelton

January 13: Diane Christensen

January 20: Lois Wessels January 27: Diane Sievers

Lector:

January 6: Laurie Storjohann January 13: Jeannene Bousselot January 20: Robin Costello-Smith

January 27: Gary Braet

OUR SAVIOR'S

Ushers:

David Olson
Tait Steines
Bryan Whitman
Mark Olson

Acolyte:

Emma Olson Alec Olson

Communion Assistant:

Peter Whitman

Lector:

January 6: Amy Glover
January 13: Mark Olson
January 20: Lydia Whitman
January 27: Brian Bousselot

Cleaners

Terry & Julie Steines Tait & Jessica Steines Jamie & Trina Knoche

Christian, Jacob & Philip Caregivers

January 6: Julie Gronewold

January 13: Hal & Andrea Shelton

January 20: Marsha/Alison Edens, Mark Olson

January 27: 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.

Annual Meetings January 27, 2013 - following Worship



Our Savior's – 8:00 a.m. Worship Faith – 10:30 a.m. Worship

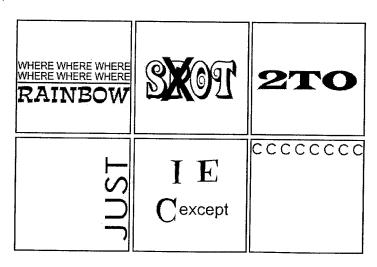
	SATURDAY	vo	12	19	26	
	FRIDAY	4	11	18 9:00 Naomi Circle H-Joan Shelton L-Marsha Witte	25	
	THURSDAY	3	10 6:00 Worship Committee - F 7:30 Joint Council - F	17	24	31
JANUARY 2013	WEDNESDAY	7	9 7:00 Confirmation Class – F 7:45 Acolyte Training Class	16 2:00 Lydia Circle H-Sharon Bousselot L-Kay Olson 7:00 Confirmation Class – F F 7:30 Choir Rehearsal - F	23 7:00 Confirmation Class - F	30 7:00 Confirmation Class - F
T T	TUESDAY		8 7:00 Committee Night - F	15	22	29
	MONDAY		Have you turned in your committee report for the 2013 Annual Meeting?	14	All financial reports for the annual report are due in the church office.	28
	SUNDAY		6 8:00 Worship - OS 9:25 SS/AC - F 10:30 Worship - F	13 8:00 Worship - OS 9:25 SS/AC - F 10:30 Worship - F	20 Noisy Offering 8:00 Worship - OS 9:25 SS/AC - F 10:30 Worship - F	8:00 Worship - OS OS Annual Mtg follows 9:25 SS/AC - F 10:30 Worship - F F Annual Mtg follows

Put Your Brain to Work!

What's a commonym you ask? A commonym is group of words that have a common trait in the three words/items listed. For example: the words; A <u>car</u> - A tree - An elephant.. they all have trunks. These will make you think!

1. Hair - A Brain - An Ocean
2. A Bride & Groom - A Boat & Trailer - A Horse & Buggy
3. A Scale - A Tire - A Checkbook
4. An Aquarium - An Army - A Car
5. A Sports Page - A Movie - A Broadway Musical
6. A Cook - A Toilet - College Football
7. A Doughnut - A Cavity - A Prescription
8. A Coal Miner - A Dentist - A Guitar Player
9. A Male Goat - A Dollar - A Male Rabbit
10. A Doctor - A Mailman - Domino's

What's a wuzzle you ask? A wuzzle is a saying/phrase that is made up of a display of words, in an interesting way. The object is to try to <u>figure</u> out the well-known saying, person, place, or thing that each wuzzle is meant to represent.



10. they deliver

9. they are bucks

8. they have picks

7. they are filled

6. they have bowls

5. they have scores

4. they have tanks

3. they are balanced

they have waves
 they are hitched

Commonym Answers:

6. High Seas

5. I Before E Except After C

4. Just Right

3. Put two and two together

2. X Marks the Spot

I. Somewhere Over the Rainbow

Wuzzle Answers:

Calamus Lutheran Parish Faith & Our Savior's Lutheran Churches P.O. Box 116 Calamus, Iowa 52729-0116 Return Service Requested

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Calamus Lutheran Parish Worship Schedule

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

