



Faith Lutheran Church
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

Email: clparish@lbcam.net

www.clparish.org



*Our Savior's Lutheran Church
2589 190th Avenue*

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Pastor's View

Pastor View

Listed below are two articles of interest for our church members. The first is a summary of the National Assembly. The Second is a talking point document that can be used to understand the news reports that were on TV last Sunday.

Our denomination, the ELCA, holds a churchwide assembly triennially - to worship, vote on matters of governance and policy, and be church together for the sake of the world. This past week's churchwide assembly was full of important votes and actions, including:

- Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton was reelected for a second six-year term on the first ballot.
- A declaration of apology to our siblings of African descent, which was received by the African Descent Lutheran Association with thanks and a call for accountability and living into the words shared.

- Approved resolution declaring the ELCA is a “sanctuary church body,” encouraging participation in the ELCA AMMPARO initiative for migrant children, discernment of care for our immigrant neighbors in our context, and the promise of forthcoming resources for this work.
- Approved support for the World Council of Church’s *Thursdays in Black*, awareness movement for a world without rape and violence.
- Voted to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance, in honor and remembrance of the martyrdom of the Emanuel 9.
- Approved a declaration for inter-religious commitment, reaffirming ecumenical and interfaith partnerships.
- Approved the recommendations from a strategic taskforce which has been studying how to work toward authentic diversity in our church.
- Approved memorials: affirming but not “endorsing” the Poor People’s Campaign, care for immigrants and refugees, and other statements.
- Adopted a new social statement, “Faith, Sexism, and Justice: a Lutheran Call to Action,” and its implementing resolutions.
- Deacon Sue Rothmeyer was elected Churchwide Secretary, a full-time position which acts as executive administrator and leader on all constitutional matters and interpretation.
- Constitutional change for Deacons (rostered ministers of word and service) to be ordained, from the previous practice of consecration.

Celebrated the milestones of 50 years of women's ordination, 40 years since the first woman of color was ordained, and 10 years since full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ clergy.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

What does becoming a sanctuary denomination mean for the ELCA?

- **In its simplest form, becoming a sanctuary denomination means that the ELCA is publicly declaring that walking alongside immigrants and refugees is a matter of faith.** The ELCA Churchwide Assembly, the highest legislative authority of the ELCA, declared that when we preach on Sunday that Jesus told us to welcome, we will use our hands and voices on Monday to make sure it happens.
- **Being a sanctuary denomination does not call for any person, congregation or synod to engage in any illegal actions.**
- **We have a broken system regarding immigration, refugees and asylum-seekers.** To declare ourselves a sanctuary church body is to say that we seek to provide concrete resources to assist the most vulnerable who are feeling the sharp edges of this broken system.
- **Being a sanctuary denomination is about loving our neighbors.** While we may have different ideas about how to fix this broken system and may have different ways of loving our neighbors, our call to love our neighbor is central to our faith.
- **Being a sanctuary denomination will look different in different contexts.** It may mean providing space for people to live; providing financial and legal support to those who are working through the immigration system; or supporting other congregations and service providers. We cannot mandate or direct our congregations and

ministries to respond in specific ways. Each must work out what this means for them in their context.

- **While we don't yet know the full scope of the work that this declaration will open for the church, we do know that our faith communities are already doing sanctuary work.** Sanctuary for a congregation may mean hosting English as a second Language (ESL) classes; marching as people of faith against the detention of children and families; providing housing for a community member facing deportation; or, in some of our congregations, having thoughtful conversations about what our faith says about immigration. All of these are a step closer to sanctuary in our faith communities and sanctuary in our world for people who must leave their homes.
- **Except for our members whose ancestors were here before European settlement or others who were forced to come to the U.S. against their will, the ELCA is an immigrant church.** Our decadeslong work with immigrants and refugees *is* how we practice our faith in the world. Lutherans started Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, one of the nine refugee resettlement agencies in the U.S.
- **At our last churchwide assembly, we also committed to walking alongside Central American children and families fleeing their communities by passing the [AMMPARO](#) strategy** (Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities).
- **Through the AMMPARO strategy, we are also working through our global partners in Central America to alleviate the conditions that**

cause people to migrate. We support organizations and faith communities that work with deported migrants in Central America and advocate for the humane treatment of immigrants in Mexico. In the U.S., we have a network of 151 welcoming and sanctuary congregations that are committed to working on migration issues and a welcome for immigrant communities. The church also has five sanctuary synods (our regional structures), all of which do work with immigrants, refugees and asylum-seekers.

- **In baptism, we are brought into a covenantal relationship with Jesus Christ that commits us to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Following the example of Martin Luther, we believe that advocacy is a crucial expression of baptismal identity.** As a church, we have advocated for stopping the detention of children and families for decades. We have spoken out against family separation, sought a pathway to citizenship for community members who have lived in the U.S. for many years, and have taken steps to address the root causes of migration in a way that honors the humanity in people who must flee.
- **Being a sanctuary denomination means that we, as church together, want to be public and vocal about this work.** At the same time, we will have conversations about what sanctuary means with many of our members and discern future action and direction. Welcoming people is not a political issue for us, it is a matter of faith.

In Christ

Pastor Bill

September

**Mark Your Calendar!
One Worship Service Only
Sunday, September 1**



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

"Coffee & A Little Jesus"



You are invited to the
Women's/Mom's Bible Study,
"Coffee & A Little Jesus."
1st Tuesday of each month at 9:00 a.m.
Kids are welcome!
Topic: Tearing God's Heart
Reading: Book of Hosea

**September 3 at 9:00 at Heather Grau's
Heather Grau's, 1658 – 257th Street, Calamus**



If interested, please email me
grau.heather@gmail.com or call me [563-424-0507](tel:563-424-0507)

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

Confirmation Class Meeting

Students of this year's confirmation class and their parents will meet with Pastor Bill for orientation on **Wednesday, September 4, at 7:00 p.m. at Faith Church.** 7th and 8th grade students, please let the office know if you will be coming so there will be enough material. Phone number of the church office is 563-246-2622.

Sunday School Preview

For children age three through kindergarten
Saturday, September 7
Our Savior's Church
9:25 - 10:25

Sunday School
is Fun!



Come see your Sunday School room and meet your teachers, sing songs, and play games.

Fall Worship Schedule Beginning September 8



**8:00 a.m. Worship
Faith Church**



**9:25 a.m. Sunday School,
Confirmation & Adult Class
Our Savior's Church**



**10:30 a.m. Worship
Our Savior's Church**

Bless the Backpacks!



Students are invited to bring their school backpacks to church with them on **Sunday, September 8.** (They need not bring the contents of their school bag.) Pastor Bill will bless the backpacks during the worship service in both congregations.

First Day of Sunday School



Sunday, September 8

9:25 a.m.

Our Savior's Church

*If you are 3 years of age or older,
there is a class for you!*



8:00 Worship – Faith Church

10:30 Worship – Our Savior's Church



Noisy Offering Collected September 15



Noisy Offerings in 2019 are designated for the
Carroll Assistance Center in Wheatland

Parish Picnic Sunday, September 8 11:30 at Bousset pond

Please bring your own meat, a dish to share, and tableware. Water and lemonade will be provided. God Squad will serve ice cream! Help kick-off the new Sunday School year. Come and enjoy good food, games, water activities, and fellowship. Invite a friend.

Special Offering for CROP Hunger Walk Sunday, September 22

The CROP Hunger Walk
will be held Sunday, October 6, 2019

Circle Bible Studies

"No Hard Feelings?"

By Anna Madsen

in September issue of *Gather* magazine

Session One

"The Angst of Anger"



Lydia Circle

Wednesday, September 18, Noon
Crossroads Garden Café – DeWitt



Naomi Circle

Friday, September 20, 9:30
Crossroads Garden Café – DeWitt

Basket Raffle

Oktoberfest in Calamus is October 12 & 13. Calamus Lutheran Parish will have a basket raffle.

There is a need for empty or completed baskets and containers. They can be dropped off in the basement at Faith or Our Savior's by the end of September.

If you have questions, contact Mary Timmerman at 563-940-0423.

God Squad thanks all those who donated to the September School Supply Drive. The items were given to Cal/Wheat schools and the Carroll Assistance Center in Wheatland.

To contact Pastor Bill, please use his cell phone number: **319-231-5262**. Thank you.

Please submit items for the October newsletter to the church office by **September 16**. Thanks for your cooperation!



July/August Council Meetings

Joint Council

God Squad: No Report

Pastor's Report:

- Confirmation will be completed by January 2020. Classes will be held both Wednesday and Sunday. Confirmation will be held on January 12 or 19, 2020
- Sean Avery is new intern at Bliedorn
- Pastor has begun retirement process

Worship Committee:

- "Now the Feast and Celebration" and hymns from the ELW will be used through July. "Now the Feast and Celebration" and hymns from WOV will be used August through November 24.
- August 25 - Worship in the park at 10 am
 - Boy Scouts will assist with service.
 - Donations will go to splash pad. Envelopes will go to their respective congregation.
 - Rain location will be Faith.
- September 1 - One worship service will be held at 9 am at Our Savior's.
- Kiersten Lee, former Vicar at Bliedorn, may be available to lead services in February 2020 if needed.

Outreach Committee:

- Committee will confirm time of one worship service and time of breakfast on Reformation Sunday.
- Picnic at the Pond will be held September 8. Grill will be hot by 11:30. God Squad is planning to serve ice cream that day.

Education Committee:

- Teachers meeting will be held Wednesday, August 28, at 7 pm at Our Savior's.
- A Sunday School Preview for children age 3 through kindergarten will be held Saturday, September 7, at 9:25 am at Our Savior's.
- No Sunday School will be held on Reformation Sunday, October 27.

Old Business:

- Ashley Steffens and Heather Grau will attend the Stephens Ministry Workshop in Des Moines on October 26. Cost will be \$15 per person.
- Dan reported the PCC submitted the parish profile in July to ELCA headquarters in Chicago.

New Business:

- Basket Raffle will be held in conjunction with Oktoberfest held in Calamus on October 12 & 13. Proceeds will go toward a splash pad for the city park.
- Council received a request in July from the Methodist Church and Rebecca Hurt to support a weekend backpack food program for elementary students. Deb Detlefs secured more information and reported back in August. The backpack food program will supply five children with four meals each weekend. Our Savior's, Faith, and Wesley Methodist churches were each asked to pay \$350 for the nine-month school year. Rebecca Hurt and the Methodist contact person will shop and fill the bags and drop them off at the school in Calamus for Friday distribution.
- Rebecca Hurt requested a paper shredder for the office. Jason Boussetot will donate a shredder.
- Terri Boussetot will return the stapler not working and get a new one.

Faith Council

- Financial reports were approved with a designated balance of \$994.49 and a working balance of \$19,096.63.

Old Business:

- The monies designated for shut-ins is related to Stephens Ministry. An informational half-day workshop about the ministry will be held in Chicago September 7 and in Des Moines October 26. Cost is \$15 per person or \$50 for four people.

New Business

- Approved the transfer of David and Linda Lindaman to St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church in Charles City, Iowa.
- \$350 was approved for the backpack food program.

Our Savior's Council

Old Business:

- Double doors on south side will be replaced.
- Called O'Donnell painting. They came out and took measurements. Waiting on son to come and give final estimate.

New Business:

- \$350 was approved for the backpack food program.
- Will be selling donuts and taking donations the second and fourth Sundays of each month. Money will be designated to the SE IA Synod.

MINISTERS for September 2019

FAITH

Ushers:

Diane Sievers
Lonny Sievers
Eric Hoffmann
Ryan Dick

Acolyte:

Alena Wilhelm

Altar Ministry:

Brian & Deb Tulley

Communion Assistant:

Andrea Shelton

Greeters:

Sept. 8: Diane Wilhelm
Sept. 15: S.S. Class
Sept. 22: Andrea Shelton
Sept. 29: S.S. Class

Lectors:

Sept. 8: Brian Tulley
Sept. 15: Andrea Shelton
Sept. 22: Mark Witte
Sept. 29: Heather Whitman

OUR SAVIOR'S

Head Usher:

Brian Boussetot

Acolyte:

Ryan Olson

Communion Assistant:

Cindy Burke

Lectors:

Sept. 1: Mark Olson
Sept. 8: Amy Glover
Sept. 15: Dan Burke
Sept. 22: Neil Holmquist
Sept. 29: Joe Morehead

Cleaners:

Shane & Amy Glover

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.

September 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 One Service 9:00 Worship at Our Savior's	2	3 Coffee & a Little Jesus 9:00 am at Heather Grau's home	4 Confirmation meeting 7:00 pm at Faith	5	6	7 Sunday School Preview 9:25-10:25 at Our Savior's
8 8:00 Worship - F 9:25 SS - OS 10:30 Worship - OS Parish Picnic 11:30 at the pond	9	10 Outreach & Education Committees 7:00 pm at Faith	11	12 Worship Committee 6:00 pm at Faith Joint Council 7:00 pm at Faith	13	14
15 Noisy Offering 8:00 Worship - F 9:25 SS - OS 10:30 Worship - OS	16	17	18 Lydia Circle Noon in DeWitt at Garden Café	19	20 Naomi Circle 9:30 am in DeWitt at Garden Café	21
22 CROP Walk Collection 8:00 Worship - F 9:25 SS - OS 10:30 Worship - OS	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 8:00 Worship - F 9:25 SS - OS 10:30 Worship - OS	30					