

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

APRIL 2013

Number 4

Pastor Writes



Nobody is a bigger fan of the planet Pluto than my son Christian. Or should I say, *former* planet Pluto. Christian is 8 years old (he will be 9 in June) and within the span of his short lifetime, Pluto has been demoted from planet to “dwarf planet.” While most people have managed to move on in life accepting this demotion, Christian remains troubled. Sometimes even anxious. And very rarely, even outraged.

“What did Pluto do to deserve this?” he sometimes asks. “It makes no sense to me, Mom.” And sometimes he paces around the house, restless like a cat, wondering what he can do to champion the cause of this humiliated former planet.

“Pluto didn’t *do* anything,” I try to explain. “Scientists just changed their classifications of what determines a planet. Sometimes, criteria for categories shift, and when that happens, things that once belonged in the category no longer belong.”

And so the conversation is ongoing between the three boys—what can they do to return Pluto to his former glory? They have passed petitions around the neighborhood. They have written letters to the White House, which I have dutifully mailed. They have even prayed (very touching) for God to soften the hardened hearts of these Pluto-demoting astronomers and to fill them with mercy and compassion.

This statement—this reality of ever-shifting categories and their qualifying criteria—has Christian more bothered than I can describe in this brief article. I tried to make light of it, explaining Pluto’s exile from the starring lineup of planets for a number of self-serving reasons, namely, Pluto disrespected his mother...or, Pluto didn’t take out the trash...or, Pluto refused to eat his vegetables...or, Pluto fought too much with his siblings and finally his mom couldn’t take it

anymore so she kicked him out of the family (that one was after a particularly bad day). Christian was able to see through these mom-agendas. They all were able to see through my sham. Oh, well. I tried.

And one night, just the other night, we had a conversation about it that was startling and eye-opening. *What exactly is so very disturbing that Pluto is no longer classified as a planet?* I asked Christian. *Why in the world does this bother you so much? It doesn’t matter if Pluto is a planet or a dwarf planet, Pluto hasn’t changed at all.*

But Mom... he began with an expression kids often have on their faces when they are about to attempt to describe ideas that are enormous and scary...

...but Mom...why can’t Pluto still belong to the planets? Because none of them are identical...Saturn has rings, Mars has a weird red spot, Earth has life...none of them have been kicked out for their abnormalities! Mom, when does something stop being a deviation within a category to being kicked out because it doesn’t fit in? Mom, what’s to keep Earth from being kicked out of the planets?

(Here I blamed Susan Kruse for intellectually stimulating my son.)

Oh, that one’s easy, I said....because we here on earth make the rules...

Do we? he asked...*do we really? I thought God did...what happens to things that don’t belong anymore? Who decides what fits in and what doesn’t fit in?*

It occurred to me we weren’t only talking about Pluto.

We were also talking about the scary notion that all people secretly harbor, the fear of not fitting in—a nightmare to kids, but one shared by adults, *(continued on next page)*

(continued from front page)

as well. Who decides who's in and who's out? And what happens to the ones that suddenly don't fit the mold? Do they get sent reeling and spinning out into the universe entirely alone, eternally friendless? Is this what the church claims its job to be—the one who decides who's in and who's out, and God help the ones whom we deem to be out, because eternity is a long time to whirl through the universe all alone, is this what we in the church think we're supposed to be about? If so, then God help us.

Christian, I said, my own mind now spinning in circles, I can't help but think Pluto will be fine. Because Pluto might not be called a planet anymore, but he is still called a dwarf planet...he still has a name, even if it's different from before...he still has a place....no matter what Pluto is called, Pluto himself hasn't changed...we could call Pluto a loaf of bread, but he would still remain Pluto...

You are called Christian, and you are called Jacob, and you are called Philip...no matter who calls you friend or enemy...you still have a name, even when you don't fit into that person's category or this person's category...you still have a place in the universe, and you will never be alone...because we are all part of this huge constellation of beings that God has knit together...and if God has knit us all together, no one can pull us apart...no one can send you spinning off into outer space to be alone forever—not your friends, not your family, not the church, no one...God has given you a very special place in this universe, and God is the one who decides who belongs and who doesn't...and because his Word echoes through every nook and cranny of this universe, somehow, we all have a place, forever...now go to sleep and dream about SpongeBob, for God's sakes, while Mommy pours herself a teensy glass of wine...

And what we were really talking about—whether it really was Pluto, or the nature of the created world, or the place of humanity within the universe, or a little boy who was afraid of being alone, or of humanity's common fear of rejection—I have no idea...but I do appreciate the night sky a lot more than I used to, and my imagination seeks out those beings and bodies out there who think they are all alone, and I send out a strange prayer to them, assuring them they are not...to beings and bodies seen and unseen, discovered and

undiscovered, honored or humiliated, that we are all in this together, forever.

- Pastor Sarah Kretzmann

Parish Photo Directory

Faith and Our Savior's Churches are updating the Parish Directory. If your contact information:

- ▶ Names of Family Members
- ▶ Address
- ▶ Phone

has changed, please send current information to:

Terri Bousselot
1945 278th Street
Calamus IA 52729

or email by April 15, 2013 to:

terribushlow@hotmail.com

We Did It!

2012 Goal - \$4 Million

I am happy to report that we have raised over \$6 million for the ELCA Malaria Campaign. In 2012, we needed to raise \$4 million and together – we did it!

Calamus Lutheran Parish contributed approximately \$4000 to the cause.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is well on its way to raising the committed \$15 million by 2015 to support ongoing malaria programs of our Lutheran brothers and sisters in Africa. We are working through these Lutheran connections to provide malaria prevention, education and treatment for people who are vulnerable to this curable disease.

Thank you for your generosity and commitment to this work.

In 2013, we are moving forward in faith with the ELCA Malaria Campaign and hope that you are filled with inspiration and encouragement. WE are well on our way to meeting our 2015 goal and I know that together -- we can do it!
In Christ's service,
Jessica Nipp Hacker
Coordinator, ELCA Malaria Campaign

Spring Cleaning at Faith

We are planning a Spring Cleaning Work Day for Faith on Saturday, the 6th of April beginning at 8:30 a.m. Some of the projects for the day will be:

- ▶ Sanctuary lights
- ▶ Stairwell curtains
- ▶ Sidewalk repair
- ▶ Mulch landscaping.

Any and all help would be greatly appreciated.
- Property and Management Committee

**May Newsletter Items Due
April 22, please.
Thanks for your
cooperation!**

**The Noisy Offering Will Be
Received April 14**

♪ April Choir Rehearsal ♪




Wednesday, April 17, 7:30 p.m.
Faith Church

Hope Cluster Women's Spring Gathering

Saturday, April 20, 2013
9:00 – Noon Luncheon - \$10
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Lost Nation

*Please make reservations as a unit by
phoning Deanne Bennett at 563-374-1589
on or before Monday, April 15, 2013*

Women of the
ELCA 

Gathered by God
"Storytelling"

"When they arrived, they called the church together and relayed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened a door of faith for the Gentiles. And they stayed there with the disciples for some time."

- Acts 14:27—28

Combined Circles

Friday, April 19 – 10:00

Squiers Manor

418 W. Pleasant,

Maquoketa

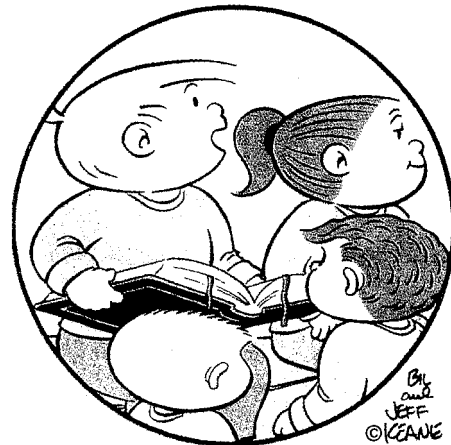
*We will meet at 9:30 at Faith Parking Lot
to carpool.*



Leader – Marsha Witte

Reservations need to be made with
Jeannene by Friday, April 12

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil & Jeff Keane



"Mommy, did you and Daddy get this Bible before or after we were begat?"

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
Reprinted with permission of Bil Keane

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- April 1: Trina Knoche
 Karlee Rock
- April 2: Daryl Henning
- April 4: Lindsey Hewer
 Aleisha Adams
- April 6: Mallory Boussetot
 Terry Cunningham
- April 9: Rebecca Shorter
- April 10: Norman Boussetot
 Hans Olson
- April 11: Brittany Hoffmann
- April 12: Jeremy Koch
- April 13: Nila Mason
- April 14: Geri Schutt
- April 15: Jeff Henning
- April 17: Nancy Olson
- April 18: Matthew Gronewold
- April 20: Hal Shelton
 Bus Seastrand
- April 22: Angela Ihns
- April 24: Brandon Knudtsen
 Mickenzie Allen
- April 25: Larry Schau
- April 28: Marcella Husen
 Don Coobs
- April 29: Bryce Erickson
 Rita Seastrand
- ♥
- April 6: Oscar & Joan Shelton
- April 7: Paul & Carla Olson
- April 8: Chris & Tara Charles Sersig
- April 9: Pastor Solveig & Michael Zamzow
- April 22: Yale & Brenda Christensen
- April 26: Dennis & Hally Haley
- April 30: Jeremy & Sarah Koch

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

"No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite." - Nelson Mandela

Binky Patrol Comforting Covers



Looking for Volunteers who sew, quilt, knit and crochet

Binky Patrol is a national non-profit organization dedicated to helping children. Volunteers make homemade blankets and quilts (aka "Binkies") for children who were born HIV+, drug-addicted, infected with AIDS or other chronic and terminal illnesses or who are sick, abused, homeless, in foster care or experiencing trauma of any kind - recipients are from birth to 18 years of age. The Binkies they receive are gifts - reminders that they, too, are loved and thought of by others who care.

The blankets are distributed to local shelters, hospitals and other social agencies such as Genesis Neo-Natal Unit, Rick's House of Hope, Gilda's Club, Family Resources, Bethany for Children & Families, Salvation Army Family Shelter and Lutheran Social Services.

Binkies may be sewn, quilted, knitted or crocheted. They must be new, homemade and suitable for a baby, child or teen. Financial donations and new supplies are also welcomed. All donations are tax deductible.

If you are interested in helping and have questions, please contact me at 563-424-0129 or at njahyman@gmail.com. You may also visit the national website at www.binkypatrol.org.

Thank you,
 Nancy Hyman, Area Coordinator
 Quad-Cities Chapter/The Binky Patrol
 18360 - 272nd Street
 Long Grove, Iowa 52756

MINISTERS FOR APRIL 2013

FAITH

Ushers:

Mark Witte
Gary Braet
Dirk Braet
Brian Tulley

Acolytes:

Katie Banowetz
Caleb Banowetz

Altar Ministry:

Dave and Terri Boussetot

Communion Assistant:

Ashley Steffens

Greeter:

April 7: Brenda Christensen
April 14: Jeannene Boussetot
April 21: Colette Christensen
April 28: Jim Gronewold

Lector:

April 7: Ashley Steffens
April 14: Heather Whitman
April 21: Lois Wessels
April 28: Alan Lee

OUR SAVIOR'S

Ushers:

Acolyte:

Drake Olson

Communion Assistant:

Lector:

April 7:
April 14:
April 21:
April 28:

Cleaners

Christian, Jacob & Philip Caregivers

April 7: Julie Gronewold
April 14: Hal and Andrea Shelton
April 21: Dirk and Annette Braet
April 28: 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.

**"I can do no other than be reverent
before everything that is called life.
I can do no other than to have compassion
for all that is called life.
That is the beginning and the foundation
of all ethics."**

- Albert Schweitzer

APRIL 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6 8:30 Spring Cleaning at Faith Church
7 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 SS/AC – OS 10:30 Worship - F	8	9 7:00 Committee Night - OS	10 7:00 Confirmation Class - F	11 6:00 Worship Committee – OS 7:30 Joint Council - OS	12 <i>(Reservations due for Combined Circle at Squiers Manor)</i>	13 9:00 Premarital Counseling - F
14 Noisy Offering 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 SS/AC – OS 10:30 Worship - F	15	16	17 7:00 Confirmation Class – F 7:30 Choir Rehearsal - F	18	19 10:00 Combined Circles at Squiers Manor L-Marsha Witte <i>Carpool from Faith at 9:30</i>	20 9-12 Women's Spring Gathering, Bethlehem Church at Lost Nation
21 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 SS/AC – OS 10:30 Worship - F	22 Newsletter Items Due	23	24 7:00 Confirmation Class - F	25	26	27
28 8:00 Worship – OS 9:25 SS/AC – OS 10:30 Worship - F	29	30				

Put Your Brain to Work!

What's a commonym you ask? A commonym is a group of words that have a common trait in the three words listed. For example: the word: A car – a tree- and elephant...they all have trunks. These will make you think!

1. May - Bean - Flag _____
2. Lamb - Pork - Karate _____
3. Road - Weather - Treasure _____
4. Penguin - Kiwi - Ostrich _____
5. Bad T.V. Shows - Stamps - Checks _____
6. Sheets - Books - Rolls _____
7. Chips - Sweet - Spears _____
8. Right - Love - Bermuda _____
9. Buck - Baby - Wisdom _____
10. Crab - Caramel - Candy _____

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 figure out the well-known saying, person, place, or thing that each wuzzle is meant to represent

T E STOMACH	<i>tis Relax</i>	emit fo zbnrd eht
12" 1"	MAN BOARD	COM MENTS COM MENTS COM MENTS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Commonym Answers</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poles 2. Types of chops 3. Maps 4. Birds that don't fly 5. They-all get cancelled 6. Ways stamps are sold 7. Pickles 8. Triangles 9. Teeth 10. Apples | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Wuzzle Answers</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Upset Stomach 2. Sit Back and Relax 3. Turn Back the Hands of Time 4. Two Feet 5. Man Overboard 6. Parting Comments |
|--|--|

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

