



Faith
Lutheran Church
505-2nd Street

**Faith and Our Savior's
Lutheran Churches (ELCA)
Calamus Lutheran Parish**

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Our Savior's
Lutheran Church
2589-190th Avenue

Volume 36

August 2023

Number 8

Pastor's View

Dear Siblings in Christ,

First, I want to express my deep gratitude to everyone for all of the ways you have served each other and my family while I was on parental leave. What a gift it is to have had that time with Leslie. What a gift it is to be your pastor and to share Christ's love with all of you, and to have you share that same love with me, Stephen, Leslie, and Chauncey. Thank you.

I have always found August to be a month of anticipation. School will be starting soon, harvesting is not too far away, worship times will soon be changing, and the weather will maybe start to turn cooler. It is this month of living into "already, but not yet." We have already purchased school supplies, but school hasn't started quite yet. We are checking combines and grain carts (hoping mice haven't done any damage), but the corn and beans aren't quite dry enough yet. We anticipate and prepare for the start of another Sunday School and Adult Education year, the changing worship times and locations, but we have a few more weeks of summer worship yet. We wait patiently for the cooler temperatures of fall, while we yet live through some of the warmer days of the year. Things are already, almost, and nearly here, but just not quite yet.

This "already, but not yet" is actually a central piece of our faith. We live in the "already, but not yet" of the kingdom of God. Jesus, in his life, death, and resurrection has already brought the kingdom of God to earth, and yet it is not fully realized, and will not be fully realized, until Jesus returns someday. Jesus has shown us the fullness and expansiveness of God's love for all of creation by his teachings and through the cross, but yet, sin still remains and has real consequences in our lives. As Christians, we are called to lean into this tension between the "already and not yet" of God's kingdom, just as we lean into the tensions of "already, but not yet" in the month of August. In August, we prepare for school, for harvesting, for new worship patterns, and for different temperatures. We prepare and then we wait. Knowing nothing we do will make anything start sooner or later than what it should. The same is true as we wait for Jesus to return. We are to prepare, and we prepare by loving and forgiving others as we have been loved and forgiven by God in Jesus Christ.

As you live into the "already, but not yet" of the changing seasons and in the kingdom of God, remember that none of us do this alone. We have each other and we are sustained by the Spirit that unites all of the baptized into the Body of Christ.

In Christ's Peace,

Pastor Leah

AUGUST

August Sunday Worship Schedule

8:00 am at Our Savior's in the sanctuary

9:30 am at Faith outdoors when possible

Noisy Offering - - Sunday, August 20

The 2023 recipient is St. Peter Lutheran Church in Ft. Myers Beach, Florida. The church was heavily damaged during Hurricane Ian.

Naomi Circle Bible Study

Wednesday, August 23

10:00 a.m. at Bousselet's Pond



Gather magazine

"Promised Salvation Now" by Rev. Dr. Anna Madsen

Calamus-Wheatland Community Fun Days

Friday, August 25- Sunday, August 27

3 days of activities in 2 communities

Community Worship in the Calamus City Park

10:00 am

Sunday, August 27

Gather in the park at 9:30 for refreshments and fellowship!

Calamus Volunteer Firemen's Annual Beef Dinner
10:30 - 1:00 at the CALCO

NO Worship Services on Sunday, August 27,
at Our Savior's Church or Faith Church.

Calamus Lutheran Parish will meet
for worship in the park.

Bible School 2023

Calamus Lutheran Parish is trying something new:
a one-day event for kids, their friends, and their families.

Date: **Monday, August 28, at Faith Church**

Time: Children will gather after school **3:15 - 5:00 pm**

Theme: **Walking on Water** (Matthew 14:22-33)

There will be Snacks, Stories, Music, and Crafts.

A Meal and Family Activity Night will follow.

Bible School registration forms are available at the church
office and online via the church website or Facebook.

ALL ARE WELCOME for the meal and family activities
with or without a registration form!



June Meetings

~ ~ Joint Council ~ ~

Date: Thursday, June 15, at Our Savior's

Present: Our Savior's: Jason Bousselet, Dan Burke,
Deb Detlefs, and Amy Glover; **Faith:** Hal Shelton,
Luke Shelton, Ashley Steffens, and Mark Witte.

Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly (May 15-16)

Mark reviewed the two-day online assembly.

- Day 1 was synod business.
- Day 2 was Bishop Amy Current's report:
 - 45 of the 135 congregations in the SE IA Synod are without a pastor.
 - There is a shortage of pastors across the nation. 589 churches in the ELCA are in the call process.
 - The ELCA is considering educated lay ministry as a way to fill the void.
 - The three Iowa ELCA bishops are riding in the 50th Annual RAGBRAI (Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa) to raise \$50,000 for 50 anti-hunger ministries in Iowa.

Education

- Bible School will be a one-day event on Monday, August 28. Children K-5th grade will meet after school from 3:15-5:00 at Faith. A "Spark" summer program will be used for the format. Registration is online or available in the church office. A family meal, games, and activities will follow. Will ask Outreach Committee to take care of food. The event will also serve as Sunday School kickoff.

Old Business

- Personnel/Child Protection Policies – Tabled until Pastor Leah's return from maternity leave.
- Parish Secretary – Tabled until PCC meets with Pastor Leah.

New Business

- There was an e-mail sent to the church office requesting financial assistance with funeral expenses for Kevin Locey who was killed in a motorcycle accident. Several Locey family members live in Calamus.
 - Council presidents and Pastor Leah exchanged ideas for helping the family; possibly using discretionary funds and reaching out with pastoral support.
 - A "Go Fund Me" campaign was in progress. Motion by Dan to make a verbal announcement of that campaign at worship and refer a specific donation to individual councils; seconded by Deb. Motion carried.

~~ Our Savior's Council ~~

Old Business

- Old Church – Siding is being installed. Electricity to the building was cut off because of poor condition.
- Elevator – Two companies are interested, but too busy to submit a bid until fall/winter.

New Business none

~~ Faith Council ~~

Old Business

- Sign out front – researched sizes and alternatives
- Electricity – no change
- Elevator Landing – no change
- Boiler/Pipe Leaks – contacting another plumber
- Tables – research continues
- Steps at Parsonage – two contractors contacted for bids on replacing the steps

New Business

- A thank you for donation was received from Cal-Wheat After Prom committee.
- Ashley moved to send \$50 with a sympathy card offering pastoral support to the Locey family; seconded by Hal. Motion carried.



July Meetings

~~ Joint Council ~~

Date: Thursday, July 13, at Faith

Present: Pastor Leah Holloway-Nilsen;

Faith: Brittany Hoffmann, Larry Schau, Hal Shelton, Luke Shelton, Brian Tulley, and Mark Witte;

Our Savior's: Jason Boussetol, Dan Burke, Deb Detlefs, Amy Glover, and Mary Timmerman.

Pastor's Report

- Rev. Dennis Rodenberg officiated at Norman Boussetol's funeral on June 14 at Faith and the baptism of Harrison Craig Christian Henning on June 24 at Our Savior's.
- Has resumed scheduling visits.
- Working on confirmation plans.
- Planning a first communion class in September.
- Assisting with Bible School planning.
- Organizing community worship in the park.

Worship

- Discussed feedback from services during Pastor's maternity leave.
- Setting 10 will be used through Advent.
- Asked to plan a community worship service on Sunday, August 27; 10:00 am in Calamus City Park (Calamus-Wheatland Fun Days weekend).
- One service only on Sunday, September 3, 9:00 am at Our Savior's (Labor Day weekend).
- Discussed a new hymnal supplement "All Creation Sings." Estimated cost for 30 hymnals would be \$435. Accompaniment edition is \$60.

Education

- Bible School
 - Registration forms available at the church and on the website.
 - Will send out postcards to Calamus and Wheatland postal patrons.
 - Staff meetings on Wednesday, August 9, and Wednesday, August 23.
- Confirmation
 - Parents' meeting on Wednesday, September 6, 6:00 pm at Faith
 - First day of confirmation is Wednesday, September 13; last day of class will be May 15.
 - Confirmation on Sunday, May 19, 2024.
- Sunday School
 - First day of classes is September 10, 9:25 am at Our Savior's.
 - Session ends May 19, 2024.

Old Business

- Personnel/Child Protection Policies – The SE IA Synod is offering a workshop on Thursday, August 10, from 9:30-11:30 in Iowa City. Pastor has registered and others are invited to attend.
- Parish Secretary – PCC will meet with those who filled in as volunteers during Pastor's leave and get their feedback regarding office duties.
- Noisy Offering – Motion by Dan to send the first six months of donations to St. Peter Lutheran Church in Ft. Myers Beach, FL; seconded by Brian. Motion carried. \$1,000 collected at Faith and \$120 collected at Our Savior's will be sent.

New Business

- Bishops' Bike Ride (July 22-29)
The three Iowa ELCA bishops are riding in the 50th Annual RAGBRAI (Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa) hoping to raise \$50,000 for 50 anti-hunger ministries in Iowa. Forms for donations will be in three Sunday bulletins. It was left to individual councils to discuss donating to the cause.
- Synod's Fall Theological Conference (September 25-26) Pastor is required to attend, but other lay leaders are invited. Motion by Deb to pay the \$100 registration fee for Heather Grau; seconded by Mary. Motion carried.

~~ Faith Council ~~

Old Business

- Sign out front – 3' x 4' electronic sign will be arriving soon for the council to view.
- Elevator – It will be serviced in August.
- Tables – New light-weight tables for the basement are ordered.
- Steps at Parsonage – Brian Judge is preparing a quote for the project.

SEPTEMBER

New Business

- Bishops' Bike Ride – Motion by Hal to contribute \$50; seconded by Brian. Motion carried.

~ ~ Our Savior's Council ~ ~

Old Business

- Old Church – Windows and siding are completed. Gutters installed soon.
- Elevator/Lift – Tabled until fall.

New Business

- Parsonage Floor Drain – Cost could be \$2,500 to take care of the problem. Motion by Deb to get the work done; seconded by Amy. Motion carried.
- Mower – Problems have been repaired.
- Bishops' Bike Ride – Motion by Dan to contribute \$50; seconded by Deb. Motion carried.

Next Meeting

- Thursday, August 10
7:00 pm at Our Savior's

Please submit items for the September newsletter to the church office by Monday, August 21. Thank you!

Sunday, September 3 ONE Service only!

Worship with Holy Communion
9:00 am at Our Savior's

Fall Schedule begins Sunday, September 10

8:00 am Worship at Faith
9:25 am Sunday School at Our Savior's
10:30 am Worship at Our Savior's

MINSTERS for August 2023

If you cannot do your task on the day assigned, it is your responsibility to trade with someone or to find your own substitute and notify the church office of the change.

FAITH CHURCH

Ushers:

Hal and Andrea Shelton

Acolyte:

Emily Grau

Communion Assistant:

Andrea Shelton

Lectors:

August 6: Shelley Witt-Gentile

August 13: Sarah Tulley

August 20: Mark Witte

August 27: Worship in the Calamus Park

Altar Ministry:

Doreen Henning

Ashley Steffens

OUR SAVIOR'S CHURCH

Usher:

Brian Bousselot

Acolyte:

Wyatt Easterday

Communion Assistant:

Dan Burke

Lectors:

August 6: Neil Holmquist

August 13: Dan Burke

August 20: Rachel Burke

August 27: Worship in the Calamus Park

Cleaner:

Marcia Edens

August 2023

Calamus Lutheran Parish

NOTE: Check the website www.clparish.org for more information.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
OS = Our Savior's Church F = Faith Church		1	2	3	4	5
6 8:00 Worship - OS 9:30 Worship - F outdoors	7	8	9 Education Committee Bible School Staff 6:00 pm at Faith	10 Outreach Committee 6:00 pm at OS Worship Committee 6:30 pm at OS Joint Council 7:00 pm at OS	11	12
13 8:00 Worship - OS 9:30 Worship - F outdoors	14	15 Bible School registration is due.	16	17	18	19
20 Noisy Offering 8:00 Worship - OS 9:30 Worship - F outdoors	21 September newsletter items are due in the church office.	22	23 Naomi Circle 10:00 am Bousselot's Pond Education Committee Bible School Staff 6:00 pm at Faith	24	25 Calamus Community	26 Wheatland Fun Days
27 Community Worship in the Calamus Park 10:00 am 9:30 am refreshments and fellowship	28 Bible School 3:15 – 5:00 K – 5 th grade at Faith 5:30 Family Meal and Games	29	30	31		

Please bring a lawn chair to Faith when worship is outdoors. In case of inclement weather, worship will be in the sanctuary.

Bible School registration is due August 15. Forms are available in the office or online. Notice that the entire family is invited for the meal.

ONE service only on Sunday, September 3. 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion at Our Savior's.