



Faith  
Lutheran Church  
505-2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Calamus, IA 52729

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

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Pastor: Rev. Leah Holloway-Nilsen



Our Savior's  
Lutheran Church  
2589-190<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Calamus, IA 52729

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### Pastor's View

Dear Siblings in Christ,

As we move into a new calendar year, this time can be filled with anticipation. Anticipation of what the year will bring, anticipation of coming changes (good, bad, and somewhere in between), anticipation of what we plan to do, and so forth. Some make New Year's resolutions, some hope that this year is better than last year, and perhaps others are even just neutral about the whole deal. No matter how you are feeling about this particular new year, I imagine that at some point all of us have felt that expectant anticipation of a new year, that feeling of "this is MY year!"

As Christians who are baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, that feeling of expectant anticipation is for us each and every day. Each and every day Christ gives us forgiveness and freedom. Each and every day we die to our old selves and rise as a new and forgiven person in Jesus Christ. This is that salvation that is for you right now today and every day, and each and every day is an opportunity to reflect the love and freedom and salvation that is found in Jesus Christ with the world.

This is a very different way of living, but it is the way of living we are called to. We don't need to wait for the calendar to change. In Jesus every morning is a new day to start again. Awake and aware and expectant for God to show up. And God does show up, even when we may not see it or feel it. God does show up.

May the anticipation of a new year help all of us to know more deeply the joys and anticipations of each new day, so that we may join with the psalmist in proclaiming that "this is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it."

In Christ's Peace,

Pastor Leah

# JANUARY

## Special Collection

The parish will be collecting winter wear through January 7. Please bring new (or very gently used) winter coats, hats, gloves, and mittens to Faith and Our Savior's. The items will be given to the Carroll Assistance Center in Wheatland for distribution to those who need something warm to wear this winter.

## **Youth Schedule**

**Wednesdays - January 10, 17, 24, 31**

**\* Confirmation Classes \***

6:00 p.m. at Faith

**\* Bible Jam \***

7:00 p.m. at Faith

Junior high and high school students are welcome to come for food, faith, fellowship, and fun!

**Sundays - January 7, 14, 21**

**\* Sunday School \***

9:25 a.m. at Our Savior's

Classes for preschool through twelfth grade

No Sunday School on January 28,  
so all can attend Annual Meetings.

## **Councils/Committees Meeting**

Brainstorming session to plan for 2024

9:00-11:00 a.m. Saturday, January 13, at Faith.

To contact **Pastor Leah**,  
please use her cell phone number:  
**(262) 914-9392**

## **Annual Reports**

Financial reports, budgets, and audit reports for the congregations are due in the church office by Monday, January 15, 2024.

## **~ Annual Meetings ~**

**Sunday, January 28, 2024**

following 8:00 worship at Faith  
and 10:30 worship at Our Savior's.

All confirmed members are eligible to vote and all are encouraged to attend the meeting of their respective congregation.

## **Naomi Circle Bible Study**

Wednesday, January 17

10:00 a.m. at Marsha Witte's home



"Scripture and Nature"

by Rev. Sara Olson-Smith

January/February issue of *Gather* magazine

## **Noisy Offering – Sunday, January 21**

The 2024 recipient will be chosen at the Councils/Committees Meeting on January 13.



## **December Meetings**

**~ Joint Council ~**

**Date:** Wednesday, December 20

**Present:** Pastor Leah Holloway-Nilsen;

**Our Savior's:** Dan Burke, Deb Detlefs,  
Amy Glover, Mary Timmerman;

**Faith:** Brittany Hoffmann, Luke Shelton,  
Brian Tulley, and Mark Witte.

## **God Squad**

- Purchased Christmas gifts for Angel Tree recipients.
- Served the Advent meal at Our Savior's on Wednesday, December 13, and then had a Christmas Party.
- Bible Jam activities will resume at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 10.

## **Pastor's Report**

- Thanksgiving service was a success.
- All activities are going well.
- Confirmation students have been leading midweek Advent services.
- Attended elementary school concert.
- Sunday morning Adult Class is using an ELCA World Hunger study.
- Pastor will be on vacation December 26-30 and January 5-7.

## **Outreach Committee**

- Canned goods and paper products were delivered to the Carroll Assistance Center following the Thanksgiving service.
- A winter clothing drive for the Carroll Assistance Center runs through January 7.

## **Education**

- Fourteen Sunday School children presented a Christmas Program "Deck the Halls and Trim the Tree" at Our Savior's on Sunday, December 17. They also caroled at Wheatland Manor and Lincolnway Villa following their Saturday rehearsal and enjoyed pizza together in DeWitt.

## **Old Business**

- Church Directory - In January, will ask for volunteers to serve on the committee.

## **New Business**

- Pastor's salary - PCC has not been able to get clear direction from Portico regarding insurance for Pastor Leah and Leslie. Trinity in PV would be paying half of Leslie's insurance.

## **~ Our Savior's ~**

### **Old Business**

- Elevator - Received a quote from a company in Muscatine. Total price including lift and labor is \$69,450. Motion by Dan to refer quote to members at the Annual Meeting on January 28. Seconded by Deb. Motion carried.
- Bathrooms – Tabled until after the elevator project.

### **New Business**

- 2024 Mowing - Received quotes from three individuals. Will reach out to Thomas Grell to confirm insurance for cemetery damage and then get a formal bid.

## **~ Faith Council ~**

### **Old Business**

- Property and Management continues to follow up on several projects: sign out front, electricity to corner light, pipe leak, elevator, parsonage steps, and basement window caulking.

### **New Business** none

### **Next Joint Council Meeting**

7:00 p.m. Thursday, January 11, at Our Savior's

### **Councils and Committees Meeting**

9:00-11:00 a.m. Saturday, January 13, at Faith

Please submit items for the February newsletter and all financial reports to the church office by Monday, January 15.  
Thank you for your cooperation!

## **MINSTERS for January 2024**

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:**

Daryl and Doreen Henning  
Blaine and Kayla Henning

**Acolyte:**

Carter Henning

**Communion Assistant:**

Doreen Henning

**Lectors:**

January 7: Doreen Henning  
January 14: Ashley Steffens  
January 21: Terri Boussetot  
January 28: Dirk Braet

**Altar Ministry:**

David and Terri Boussetot

### **OUR SAVIOR'S CHURCH**

**Usher:**

Brian Boussetot

**Acolyte:**

Kara Olson

**Communion Assistant:**

Dan Burke

**Lectors:**

January 7: Jason Boussetot  
January 14: Melisa Jacobsen  
January 21: Amy Glover  
January 28: Joe Morehead

**Cleaners:**

Dan and Cindy Burke

# January 2024 Calamus Lutheran Parish

NOTE: Check the website [www.clp parish.org](http://www.clp parish.org) for more information.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
F = Faith Church OS = Our Savior's Church	1  <b>New Year's Day</b>	2	3	4	5	6  <b>Epiphany</b>
7 8:00 Worship - F 9:25 Sunday School - OS 10:30 Worship - OS	8	9	10 <b>Confirmation</b> 6:00 pm at Faith <b>Bible Jam</b> 7:00 pm at Faith <b>Education Committee</b> 7:00 pm at Faith	11 <b>Outreach Committee</b> 6:00 pm at OS <b>Worship Committee</b> 6:30 pm at OS <b>Joint Council</b> 7:00 pm at OS	12	13 <b>Councils and Committees Meeting</b> 9:00 – 11:00 am at Faith
14 8:00 Worship - F 9:25 Sunday School - OS 10:30 Worship - OS	15 February Newsletter items and Financial Reports are due in the office.	16	17 <b>Naomi Circle</b> 10:00 am at Marsha Witte's home <b>Confirmation</b> 6:00 pm at Faith <b>Bible Jam</b> 7:00 pm at Faith	18	19	20
21 <b>Noisy Offering</b> 8:00 Worship - F 9:25 Sunday School - OS 10:30 Worship - OS	22	23	24 <b>Confirmation</b> 6:00 pm at Faith <b>Bible Jam</b> 7:00 pm at Faith	25	26	27
28 8:00 Worship - F <b>Faith Annual Meeting</b> No Sunday School 10:30 Worship - OS <b>Our Savior's Annual Meeting</b>	29	30	31 <b>Confirmation</b> 6:00 pm at Faith <b>Bible Jam</b> 7:00 pm at Faith			

Please attend the Annual Meeting of your congregation on Sunday, January 28. 2023 reports are presented. Plans are made for 2024.