



*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

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*Our Savior's*  
2589 190th Avenue

Volume 27

JANUARY 2014

Number 1

### *Pastor Writes*



Some of you will recognize this story from Facebook. If so, please bear with me. If this story is new to you, please bear with me. There is a point. Isn't there always? ☺

The other day at breakfast, Jacob said, "Mom, I think instead of buying presents, we should take that money and give it to the guy ringing the bell outside of the store."

Philip said, "I think you should shut up, Jacob!"

Christian said, "Mom, how long do they have to be my brothers?"

This is a perfect three-fold example of how human beings receive the message of Christmas.

Some people get the point. Some people really, truly grasp that Christmas is about God giving us the gift of his own Son....that this Son Jesus will grow to be a man who will be sacrificed to take away the sins of the world. Some people marvel at the depth of love that God has for us, that he would offer his own son up to death in our place. This is a mysterious, gracious love that is less understood with the mind than it is grasped with the heart. These are heart people.

Other people like the stuff. They like the bells and presents and trees and treats and parties and mistletoe and all that. They love the festive side to the season of Christmas. They know they should somberly ponder the incarnational mysteries of God-made-man, but, truth be told, they are bursting with holiday cheer...they want halls to be decked, they want bells a'jingling...they want Santa coming right down Santa Claus Lane...These are gut people.

And there are still others who wearily look heavenward and, like the psalmist, ask the timeless question, "How long, O Lord?" How long do I have to put up with my brothers who drive me crazy?

How long do I have to put up with crazy holiday parking lots? How long do I have to put up with Christmas music that has been playing since mid-October? How long do I have to put up with hordes of wild-eyed people everywhere I turn? *How long, O Lord, how long?* These are mind people.

The first is a philanthropist.

The second is a narcissist.

The third is a pragmatist.

There is room for all around the manger.

I am sometimes a philanthropist, sometimes a narcissist, sometimes a pragmatist. So are you. Each one of us is a complex combination of benevolence and selfishness. Our hearts tell us to love our neighbor; our instincts tell us to fight for survival; our minds tell us to think it through logically. We are complicated creatures, to be sure.

I laugh thinking of the three Wise Men, traveling a vast distance from the east to find the newborn king. If these men were anything like I suspect my three (wise guys) will grow up to be, I am certain their conversation was not always royal and majestic.

Perhaps the first wise man said, "I think we should spend all our money and give this new king the most expensive gifts we can."

Perhaps the second wise man said, "I think you should just shut up!"

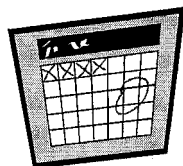
Perhaps the third wise man looked up at the stars and said, "How long do I have to travel with these guys? They're driving me crazy."

There was room for those three at Jesus' manger. There is certainly room for my three at Jesus' manger. And there is most certainly room for you.

- *Pastor Sarah Kretzmann*

## **FAITH CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING**

**Sunday, January 26, 2014  
Following 8:00 a.m. Worship**



## **OUR SAVIOR'S CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING**

**Sunday, January 26, 2014  
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 by December 20, 2013. These reports are still due: Stewardship/Christian Outreach, Property and Management and Luther League.

Financial reports from Confirmation, Luther League, Women's Circles, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, proposed 2014 budgets and audit reports for the congregations are due in the church office by January 20, 2014. Thank You!

### **Treat the Pantries**

The Calamus Lutheran Parish collection totaled \$1,140 for "Treat the Pantries." The total from all eleven Lutheran churches and Thrivent's matching funds was \$5,002, so each of the four pantries received \$1,250.50. The West Clinton County Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans thanks you for your generosity!

**Sunday School and Adult Class  
resume January 5, 2014, 9:25 a.m.  
at Our Savior's Church**

## **2014 Ministry Lists to be Compiled**

The 2014 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 will soon be compiled. If anyone would like to be added to or removed from the ministry assistants lists, please let one of the following people from your congregation know - at Our Savior's: Dan Burke, Jason Boussetot, Deb Detlefs, and Linda Whitman; at Faith: Diane Christensen, Andrea Shelton and Terri Boussetot. Thank you to all those who continue to assist in these ministries!

**The Noisy Offering Will Be  
Received January 19**

**February Newsletter Items  
Due January 20, please.  
Thanks for your cooperation!**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon; where there is  
discord, union; where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope; where there  
is darkness, light; where there is sadness,  
joy. Grant that we may not so much seek  
to be consoled as to console; to be  
understood as to understand; to be loved  
as to love. For it is in giving that we receive;  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
and it is in dying that we are born to  
eternal life. Amen.

- A prayer attributed to Francis of Assisi



## At the November Council Meetings

### Joint Council:

- Worship Committee: Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services were finalized;
- Education Committee: the Christmas program will be held on December 15, 10:30 a.m. at Our Savior's; there will be no Sunday School classes on December 22 and 29 – classes will resume on January 5, 2014; Luther League will meet in the kitchen on the first Sunday of each month during the Sunday School/Adult Bible Class hour; youth have completed Angel Tree shopping, are considering a name change for the group and will occasionally invite 5-6th graders to meetings;
- Faith Annual Meeting will be held on January 26, 2014 immediately following 8:00 a.m. worship; Our Savior's Annual Meeting will be held on January 26, 2014 immediately following 10:30 a.m. worship;
- Financial reports of organizations and committees, budgets and audit reports for the congregations are due in the church office by January 20, 2014;
- The monthly agendas for Joint, Faith and Our Savior's Councils will be posted on the website by Dan Burke.

### Faith Council:

- Approved financial reports with a designated balance of \$6,161.40 and a working balance of \$11,240.63;
- Shirley Ferguson will write the 2013 historical review and then relinquish the task – Council appreciates her efforts in performing this task for many years;
- Clarification will be made on the purpose of Study Bible accounting item;
- Replacement of two tanks and a pump for the boiler will occur on December 17 by Ryan and Associates – installation should be completed in one day;
- Josh and Zach Poell submitted a letter of interest in performing snow removal: the bid was \$25 per hour, per shovel – Braet will confirm the provider;
- Larry Schau and Colette Christensen completed terms on the council; Dirk Braet, Keith Gasper and Terri Bousselot have one year remaining on their three-year terms; Hal Shelton

and Eric Hoffmann have two years remaining on their three-year terms;

- Jason Bousselot submitted a letter to Faith Council on December 12 stating a non-negotiable salary for 2014. He seeks an increase in salary from \$60 per service to \$115 per service in 2014. The letter will be forwarded to the Property and Management Committee which is responsible for preparing the 2014 Budget.

### Our Savior's Council:

- Financial reports were accepted with a working balance of \$(1,299.08).
- The mailing list for *The Lutheran* was revised;
- Auditing and Nominating Committees need members.

### Our Savior's Monthly Financial Report November 2013

Beginning Balance.....	\$ 70.11
Deposits .....	\$ 3,857.70
Disbursements.....	\$ 5,905.79
Ending Balance.....	\$(1,299.98)

## Former Pastor of Our Savior's and Faith Dies

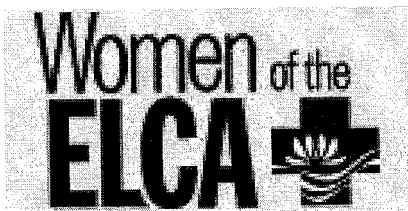
Pastor William Spencer, who served at Our Savior's from 1970—1975 and at both Faith and Our Savior's beginning in 1973, died on December 23, 2013. A memorial service will be held January 4, 2014, at 1:00 p.m. in Arizona. If you would like to send a card, his wife's address is Dee Spencer, 332 E. Arabian Drive, Gilbert, AZ 85296.

## Wedding at Faith Church

Pastor Sarah presided at the wedding of Brad Schroeder and Amber Lindemann on December 7 at Faith Church. Brad and Amber are members of St. John's Lutheran Church (Blieborn), Grand Mound.

*Glory to God in highest heaven,  
Who unto man His Son hath given;  
While angels sing with tender mirth,  
A glad new year to all the earth.*

~Martin Luther



## **In Good Company – Stories of Biblical Women**

### **"Abigail, A Calm Strategist"**

"Then Abigail hurried and took two hundred loaves, two skins of wine, five sheep ready dressed, five measures of parched grain, one hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs. She loaded them on donkeys and said to her young men, 'Go on ahead of me; I am coming after you.' But she did not tell her husband Nabal."

– 1 Samuel 25:18–19



### **Lydia Circle**

**Wednesday, January 15, 2:00 p.m.**

**Hostess: Sharon Bousset**

**Leader: Arlene Green**



### **Naomi Circle**

**Friday, January 17, 9:30 a.m.**

**Hostess: Joan Shelton**

**Leader: Marsha Witte**

## **Southeast Iowa Synodical Women Support Lutheran World Relief**

Thanks to all the labor and love among SE Iowa Synod and LCMS women who produced 9,054 quilts for Lutheran World Relief in 2013!

Congregations participating in the spring were 111 and 101 in the fall. Combined totals from Spring and Fall 2013 were:

- Quilts – 9,054
- Personal Kits – 2,239
- School Kits – 4,062
- Fabric Kits – 279
- Layette – 1,499
- Donations - \$3,049.59

## **Luther League Monthly Meeting**



**Luther League Welcomes all Junior High  
and High School Youth!**

**Where:** Our Savior's Church, in the Kitchen

**When:** Sunday, January 5, during Sunday  
School Hour – 9:25 a.m.

## **Luther League Lounge!**



**Who?** All 7-12 graders

**What?** Weekly Wednesday

5:30 p.m. fellowship meetings

**Where?** Faith Church

## **Women's Wednesday Night Bible Study Schedule**

Resumes regular Bible study schedule at  
Faith Church ~ 7:30 p.m.  
every Wednesday beginning  
January 8, 2014



## ***Birthdays and Anniversaries***

January 1: Kenneth Eschbach  
 January 2: David Olson  
 January 3: Isaac Wilhelm  
 January 4: Dirk Braet  
                   Ethan Wilhelm  
 January 6: Adam Hayes  
 January 8: Joan Shelton  
                   Alec Olson  
                   Shelly Mayerhofer  
 January 9: Peter Whitman  
 January 10: Pastor Sarah  
                   Wyatt Easterday  
 January 13: Steve Hansen  
                   Blake Elias  
                   Pastor Marv Robeck  
                   Junior Homrighausen  
 January 14: Declan Olson  
 January 15: Gerry Wulf  
 January 17: Vicki Garrett  
 January 18: Anne Tulley  
 January 19: Gary Braet  
 January 20: Austin Henning  
 January 21: Herb Wilhelm  
                   Jody Schnede-Henning  
 January 22: Arlene Green  
                   Kevin Henning  
                   David Bousselot  
 January 23: Jessica Schroeder  
                   Noelle Steines  
 January 25: Doug Willet  
 January 26: Keegan Allen  
                   Audrey Witte  
 January 27: Richard Olson  
 January 28: Chris Morehead  
                   Brody Koch  
 January 30: Dylan Bousselot  
                   Michele Calef  
                   ♥  
 January 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 5: Ruth Braet  
 January 12: Hal & Andrea Shelton  
 January 19: Marsha/Alison Edens, Mark Olson  
 January 26: Boys with Nate

## ***Thank You from Messiah Lutheran Church***

Advent Blessings! Thank you very much for the beautiful Quiet Bags. The timing was perfect, and the children (and their parents) were very excited about them. What love and work went into making these special bags. In that same love they will be used by the younger children of Messiah. It was very thoughtful and kind of the children of Calamus Parish who assembled them during their time at Vacation Bible School, and all who cut and sewed the bags, and all who supplied each bag with their contents. We greatly thank all of our brothers and sisters in Christ from Faith and Our Savior's Churches for these special gifts, and for your support, prayers, and encouragement. It has been a long year, and yet the work in the surrounding areas continues as many families are still recovering from the storm.

God's Blessing to your Parish. We treasure this relationship, and hold you in our prayers. May the Light of the Christ Child warm your hearts forever!

His Servant,  
 Pastor Nancy A. Nardi  
 And the Members and Friends of Messiah

Messiah Lutheran Church  
 3091 Bordentown Rd.  
 Parlin, New Jersey 08859-1168

## **Genesis Needs Volunteers**

To: Quad City Area Churches

Genesis Medical Center is looking for volunteers who would be willing to volunteer 2 to 4 hours, once or twice a month. We have volunteer opportunities at Davenport and Silvis Campuses. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Danielle Spengler, 1-563-421-2181 or email her at [Spenglerd@genesishhealth.com](mailto:Spenglerd@genesishhealth.com)

Rev. David Turner  
 Manager, Spiritual Care & Volunteer Services

## 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 \$4.00 per home-delivered meal. 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](mailto:josborn@genage.org) or [genage@genage.org](mailto:genage@genage.org).

There are GenAge Cafes open daily in the following nearby towns if you prefer going out to eat: United Church of Christ, 520 – 11th Street E, De Witt – serving Monday through Friday and at St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Wheatland – serving Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Suggested donation for dining at these sites is \$3.50.

## Check the Check List

- ✓ If you have not checked your mail box at church recently, please take a look. Your 2014 offering envelopes are ready for you. There may also be some communication that was placed in the box this past year, as well.
- ✓ If you have not yet picked up your photo directory, they are available in the church office or from Jason Bousselot at Our Savior's.
- ✓ If you no longer have a land line, it would be helpful to give the church office, a cell phone number where you can be reached.
- ✓ If you have an email address, it would also be helpful to submit it to the church office as a means of communication between us.

## The Epiphany of Our Lord



Epiphany is the festival on January 6 celebrating the manifestation of Christ to the world, recalling the visit of the magi.

The date of January 6 coincided with the winter solstice in the eastern part of the Mediterranean world, where this festival was first observed in the third century. This observance pre-dates the December 25 Christmas observance by a century.

The number of magi is not known; the fact of the three gifts may account for the idea of three magi. They may have been sages who specialized in astronomy, perhaps Zoroastrian priests from Persia (present-day Iran). That they were Gentiles, not Jews, is why the Epiphany festival celebrates the revelation of Jesus as the Christ to the whole world.

The gift of gold was valuable, a gift fit for a king. Frankincense was a type of incense used in worship, symbolizing prayers rising to God. Myrrh was a fragrant resin used in oil for anointing and to prepare a body for burial.



## MINISTERS FOR DECEMBER 2013

### FAITH

#### Ushers:

Daryl Henning  
Doreen Henning  
Blaine Henning  
Kayla Henning/Ashley Steines

#### Acolytes:

Caleb Banowetz  
Austin Henning

#### Altar Ministry:

Diane & Herb Wilhelm

#### Communion Assistant:

Ruth Braet

#### Greeter:

January 5: Brenda Christensen  
January 12: Jeannene Boussetot  
January 19: Colette Christensen  
January 26: Jim Gronewold

#### Lectors:

January 5: Dirk Braet  
January 12: Andrea Shelton  
January 19: Shirley Ferguson  
January 26: Marsha Witte

### OUR SAVIOR'S

#### Ushers:

Dan Burke  
Sherry Lahann

#### Acolyte:

Maia Glover

#### Communion Assistant:

Terina Bruns

#### Lector:

January 5: Dan Burke  
January 12: Dan Burke  
January 19: Marcia Edens  
January 26: Amy Glover

#### Cleaners:

Art and Sharon Boussetot  
Jason and Chad Boussetot

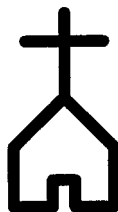
#### Christian, Jacob & Philip Caregivers

January 5: Ruth Braet  
January 12: Hal & Andrea Shelton  
January 19: Marcia/Alison Edens, Mark Olson  
January 26: 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 26, 2014**

**Each Congregation's Annual Meeting  
follows their Sunday Morning Worship**



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

# JANUARY 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5 8:00 Worship - F 9:25 SS/AC - OS 9:25 LL Meeting - OS 10:30 Worship - OS	6	7	8 5:30 LL Lounge - F 7:00 Confirmation - F 7:30 Women's Bible Study - F	9	10	11
12 8:00 Worship - F 9:25 SS/AC - OS 10:30 Worship - OS	13	14 7:00 Committee Night - F	15 2:00 Lydia Circle H-Sharon L-Arlene 5:30 LL Lounge - F 7:00 Confirmation - F 7:30 Women's Bible Study - F 8:00 Choir - F	16 6:00 Worship Committee - F 7:30 Joint Council - F	17 9:30 Naomi Circle H-Joan Shelton L-Marsha Witte	18
19 NOISY OFFERING 8:00 Worship - F 9:25 SS/AC - OS 10:30 Worship - OS	20 Annual Financial Reports Due February Newsletter Items Due	21	22 5:30 LL Lounge - F 7:00 Confirmation - F 7:30 Women's Bible Study - F	23	24	25
26 8:00 Worship - F 9:00 Annual Meeting- F 9:25 SS/AC - OS 10:30 Worship - OS 11:30 Annual Meeting - OS	27	28	29 5:30 LL Lounge - F 7:00 Confirmation - F 7:30 Women's Bible Study - F	30	31	

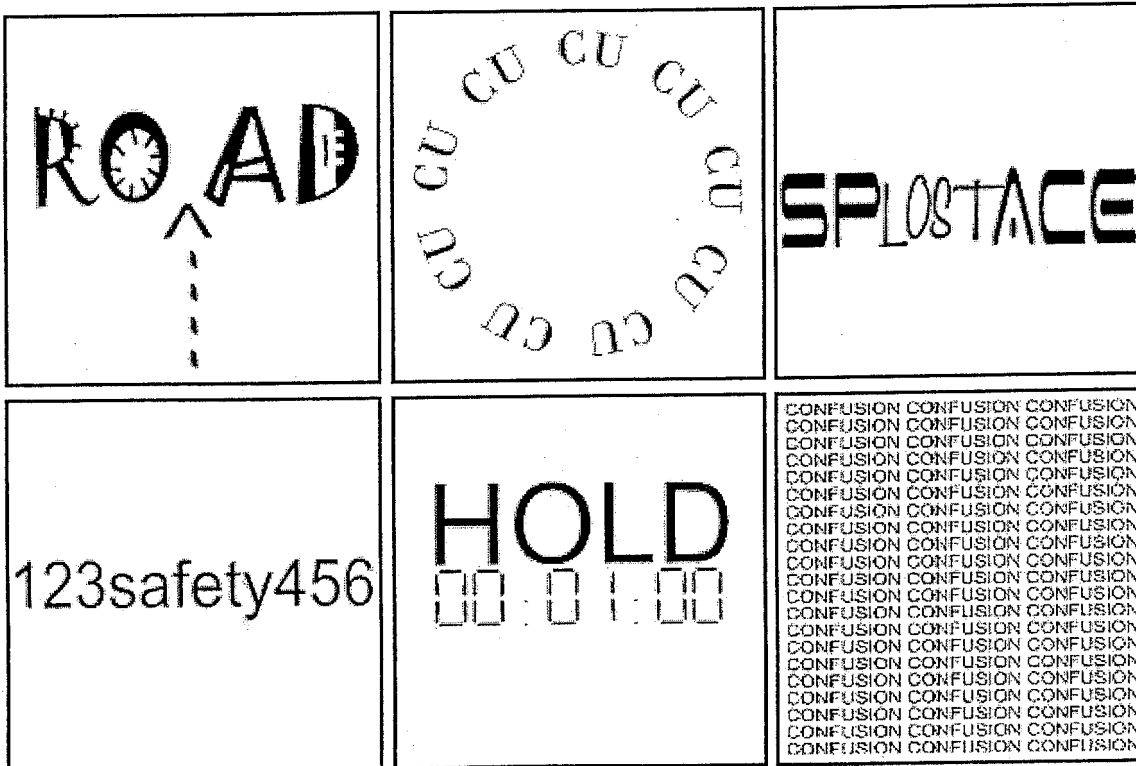


## Put Your Brain to Work!

**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. Bird - Board - Berry \_\_\_\_\_
2. A Basketball player - A Baby - A Soccer player \_\_\_\_\_
3. A Rock Band - Traffic - A Copy Machine \_\_\_\_\_
4. A Pirate Ship - A Mailbox - A School \_\_\_\_\_
5. A Bomb - A Kiss - A Flower \_\_\_\_\_
6. A Waitress - An Iceberg - A Tongue \_\_\_\_\_
7. A Potato - A Storm - A Needle \_\_\_\_\_
8. Steam - Bird - Bubble \_\_\_\_\_
9. Brick - Swiss - Blue \_\_\_\_\_
10. Rubber - Gum - Cork \_\_\_\_\_

**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



1. Middle of the Road
2. See You Around
3. Lost in Space
4. Safety in Numbers
5. Hold on a Minute
6. Mass Confusion

1. All can be described with "black".
2. They all dribble.
3. They all jam.
4. They all have flags.
5. They are all planted.
6. They all have tips.
7. They all have eyes.
8. Baths
9. Types of cheese
10. Trees

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**  
**Faith Lutheran Church**  
**505 Second Street, town of Calamus**



**9:25 A.M. Sunday School/Adult Class**  
**Our Savior's Lutheran Church**



**10:30 A.M. Sunday Worship**  
**Our Savior's Lutheran Church**  
**2589 – 190th Avenue, rural Calamus**

Church Office..... 563.246.2622  
Pastor Sarah's Office..... 563.246.2558  
Church email address .....[clparish@fbcom.net](mailto:clparish@fbcom.net)  
Pastor's email .....[pastorsarahk@fbcom.net](mailto:pastorsarahk@fbcom.net)  
Church Website.....[www.clparish.org](http://www.clparish.org)

