



Newsletter from Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Fargo North Dakota

September 2013

Inside this issue:

Tuesday Bible Study	2
Women's Bible Study	2
Sunday Bible Study	2
Guest Pastor	2
Bibles for Third Graders	3
Confirmation News	3
Ministerial Recruitment	
Visit-Concordia St. Louis	3
LWML News	3
Memorials to BSLC	4
Gold Club	4
Quilting	4
Dennis Hase Benefit	4
Sudanese Update	4
Pastor Dave's Article	5
F-M Lutherans for Life	5
Grace Spaghetti Dinner	6
Youth Events	6
Sunday School Registration	7

God Creates Out Of Love



Pastor Chris

I recently ran across a blog offering proof that God did not create the Universe. The author did not tap into the evolution argument; rather, he argued that a perfect God would have no need to create -- much less to create a world in which people would suffer, fall away from faith and end up in eternal torment.

Although I do not agree with his conclusions, I do think he raises some very good questions. Why did God create? And perhaps more importantly, why did God create knowing that the result would bring about the world in its current state?



I believe the answer lies in one word: love.

Our author argues that if God did create, then He needed something outside Himself. A perfect God, he argues, has no need to create anything. In response, I would say that God did not create out of need; He created out of love.

When you love, you don't keep it to yourself. You share. In fact, when you love, you share yourself. That's what God does in His creative act. He made a "good" world (before the fall into sin) where His creatures walked in communion with this perfect love.

Because God is the source of all that is good, because of His perfect essence and nature, because God is love, He created. He did this so that others might experience all that He is. For God to not share Himself would violate the very nature of love. Creation, then is the act of a loving, giving, perfect being.

(Continued on next page)

Beautiful Savior Fall Events

Sept. 4	6:30 p.m.	Praise Band
Sept. 8	8:15 a.m.	Praise Worship
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday school Bible study
	10:45 a.m.	Traditional Worship
	6:30 p.m.	Youth Praise Band
Sept. 10	7 p.m.	Evening Bible Study
Sept. 11	6:15 p.m.	Confirmation starts
	7:30 p.m.	Choir practice
	7:45 p.m.	Youth Bible Study



Two Worship Services on Sundays this Fall

8:15 and 10:45 a.m.

As reported in the last newsletter, we will not be returning to three worship services in September. We are discontinuing our 9:30 a.m. worship, but we are keeping the worship times of 8:15 and 10:45 a.m. Our congregational leaders realize that many appreciated having three options for worship on Sunday. However, at this time we think that having two services with more time for fellowship is better for the church.

**Benefit for
Dennis Hase
Oct. 11**
(see page 5 for
more information)

OUR MISSION
is to share
God's message,
to grow in our
faith, to love and
serve others.

God Creates Out of Love *(Continued from page 1)*

Why then did God allow for the rebellion of Satan and later, the rebellion of man? Again, the answer lies in love. God does not create creatures with no choice but to love Him. If God created in this way, He would be nothing more than a despot, a dictator. Love is not a forced response. Love is not extended through mandate or a perfect system. Even though we confess that, after the fall, love of God certainly is a result of God's action alone, it is not something He forces.

I know the question that will arise: Is it really love to allow people to end up in a world of such brokenness? Is it really love to allow people go to hell for all eternity?

Perfect love is not negated by unreturned love. Perfect love is shared and offered freely despite rejection and rebellion. To refrain from giving His perfection based on our flaws and rejection would indicate a need from God to please us and conform to our ideas. God has no such need.

God cannot share Himself with what He does not create. So here you are. He created you so that you might know Him and His goodness, receiving it through Jesus Christ our Lord and poured out through the Holy Spirit. God's creation does not give cause for doubt, but instead brings rejoicing and faith. Paul writes:

"Who has ever given to God, that God should repay Him? For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever! Amen."

(Romans 11:34-36).

Pastor Chris

Sunday Morning Bible Study "Prodigal God"

Starting around 9:40 a.m.

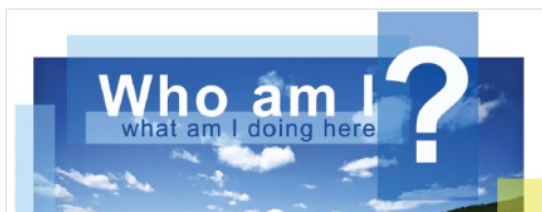
In our Sunday morning Bible Study, we will use the parables from Luke 15 as a basis for looking at God. The word "prodigal" does not mean "wayward" but, according to Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, "recklessly spendthrift." It means to spend until you have nothing left. This term is therefore as appropriate for describing the father in the story from Luke 15 as his younger son. The father's welcome to the repentant son was literally reckless. In this story, the father represents the Heavenly Father Jesus knew so well. Join us for this study as Jesus shows us the God of Great Expenditure, who is nothing if not prodigal toward us, his children. God's reckless grace is our greatest hope and the basis for our new life.



**Prodigal
God**

Guest Preacher Sept. 22

Rev. Dr. Jim Baneck, president of the North Dakota District of the LCMS, will be our guest preacher on Sept. 22. He will also be giving the message at the Sudanese worship service that afternoon.



Tuesday Evening Bible Study "Who Am I? What Am I Doing Here?" 7 p.m. starting on Sept. 10

Some of the ideas in Pastor Joel Biermann's explorative video Bible study includes the universe, speaking the Christ story, God's will, true human fulfillment, God's Law and the point of it all. In six sessions, he takes us from the beginning to that place where, on the Last Day, we find our greatest realization as humans.

"Golden Fruit" Women's Bible Study



Women, feel free to join us at our Bible study. Each lesson is individual; you can come once or every week and still follow our study. Our evening group will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 9 and 16; and our morning group will meet at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 5 and 12. We will then be done with our "Golden Fruit" study. We will start a new study in October. Please watch the announcements for more details and when to sign up.

Bibles for Third-graders

8:15 and 10:45 a.m. service Sept. 15



All children entering third grade will receive a free Bible at the 8:15 and 10:45 a.m. services on Sunday, Sept. 15. As our children grow in years, the gift of the Holy Scriptures guides, leads and strengthens us in God's truth, ways and salvation in Jesus Christ. Please join us for this special celebration!

Confirmation Classes

For Students in Grades 7-9

Begins at 6:15 p.m. Sept. 11

As a part of our education ministry, we offer confirmation classes for students in seventh through ninth grades. If you have a child in those classes, please have them join us beginning at 6:15 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 11. If you have any questions, please call the church office.



Parent Meeting for Those Children in Confirmation

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 11

A short meeting will occur with parents to describe our confirmation program this year. If you have any questions before the meeting, please contact one of the pastors.

Fall Voters' Meeting

9:40 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 6

Our fall congregational meeting will be held the first week of October this year instead of in September. There will be reports from the various committees and boards. This is your chance to find out more about the ministry of our church.



LWML News



Lutheran Women in Missions (LWML) will meet from 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12, at the church. All the women of the congregation are welcome and needed to help with mission and human care projects. We always welcome new ideas and would love to have you join us to see how God can use you!

The LWML Women's Fall Retreat will be held the weekend of Sept. 20-22 at the Chieftain Inn in Carrington, ND. Registration forms are available online at ndlwml.org or at the LWML kiosk in the hall across from the office. Please consider joining your sisters in Christ from around the state in a relaxing, refreshing time of Bible study and fellowship.

The LWML Zone Fall Rally will be held at Beautiful Savior from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12. All women are invited. Items for the Gladys Ray Shelter in Fargo will be collected at the rally. Anyone can donate items so please put it in the box by the LWML kiosk across from the office by Oct. 12. Items needed are listed below. Thank you!

Sugar	Hot chocolate	Deodorant
Creamer	Toothbrushes	Mat bus passes
Coffee	Shaving cream	Disposable razors
Tea	Cough drops	Kleenex
Tylenol	Gatorade	PowerAde
Aleve	Hand sanitizer	Hand warmers
Advil	Winter hats	Winter gloves
Foot care products such as socks, powders, sprays		

Sept. 29 will be "Loose Change Sunday," so please bring your mite boxes to church.

Ministerial Recruitment Visit

Have you ever considered being a pastor or deaconess? If so, Rev. Kyle Castens from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, would like to meet with you at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church on Wednesday, Sept. 11, anytime between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Rev. Castens is interested in meeting with prospective students of all ages-elementary school through adults-who are already employed in another vocation. Conferences are individual and informal. Family and friends are welcome. Reservations are not necessary but strongly encouraged. If you are interested in scheduling a specific conference time, call Rev. Castens at (314)505-7224 or e-mail him at castensk@csl.edu.

Join Our Adult Choir

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 11

Music lets us glorify our God in a variety of styles. Christian hymns and songs help us to encourage one another. Our adult choir will meet on Wednesdays from 7:30-8:30 p.m. at the church. Call Ramsey Dahl, our director, at 237-9009 for more information or just show up for practice!



BSLC Coffee Club

Our BSLC members meet at 9 a.m. on Fridays at Village Inn on the corner of 32nd Avenue South and 25th Street, Fargo. This time of fellowship is to get to know other BSLC members and is for both men and women of any age. Stop in when you can.



Sudanese Ministry Update

Remember to keep Daniel Mapur and Samuel Majak in your prayers, as they travel with Pastor Dave at the beginning of September to St. Louis to begin more formal training. They will be attending the **Ethnic Immigrant Institute of Theology (EIIT)**. EIIT is a specialized online education program that provides theological education and formation for effective pastoral leadership within immigrant-based churches.

Daniel and Samuel will be mentored by Pastor Dave and Pastor Chris throughout this process.

Please Save Coupons for the Military and Used Stamps

Please clip coupons and sort them by the month that they will expire. Bring them to the drawer by the LWML kiosk and put them in the correct file by month.

Please bring in your used stamps. Don't cut them off; bring in the envelopes and place in drawer marked STAMPS by the LWML kiosk. Money received for these goes to missions..

Memorials to BSLC

In memory of Curtis Zahrt
Barbara Zahrt

In memory of Gordy Swanson:

Pete & Mary Anderson	Brad & Lois Cogdill
Tim & Tina Deitemeyer	Keith & Judy Gregerson
Matt & Beth Gustafson	Ed & Carol Herrmann
Chuck & Rhonda Hoge	Harlan & Irene LeMier
Donald & Laura Malchose	Geneal Roth
Steve & Maxine Rust	Greg & Mary Seiffert
Terry & Carol Staiger	Loretta Swiontek
Nita Tewksbury	Esther Wallum



Gold Club Lunch

Noon on Wednesday, Sept. 18

On the third Wednesday of each month, our older members gather at BSLC for a potluck. If you are age 55 and older and /or retired, please join us in the fellowship hall. Bring a dish to pass around.



Quilting

Quilting will start up again from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 26. Bring any sewing materials and fabric you can and your sewing machine, if possible. This is open to all ages and even non-sewers can be kept busy. Come for the morning or stay all day!

Dennis Hase Benefit

5-9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11

Dennis and his wife Sarah (Lee) Hase are members of BSLC. Denise was in a near head-on collision in April while on his way to work. He has had several surgeries for injuries to his right knee, ankle and heel. Recovery time will be a year with possibly more surgery and extensive physical therapy still needed. The benefit will help them with medical bills and time lost from employment. There will be a benefit with a free-will offering dinner and a silent auction from 5-9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11, at BSLC.

If you would like to donate items for the silent auction or offer your help in any other way, please call Diane Lee at 280-1434 or Carrie Thorsrud at 235-3551. Thank you for your help and prayers.

Bearing Fruit



Pastor Dave

This is the second year in a row where we have had very dry conditions in our area. On the one hand, it has been nice because I haven't had to mow my lawn much. On the other hand, my yard does not look healthy. The grass has stopped growing and has dried up. Also, the only things that seem to grow are the weeds in our yard.

Now, whether the grass on my lawn looks good or not is not as important for me as what the crops are like in our area, nation and around the world. Growing up on a farm, my heart is concerned about the growing conditions of the crops. Having favorable weather with the proper amount of sunshine and rain is helpful for farming. For the goal of the farmer is to have a good harvest—that the crops would produce.

**I am the
vine;
You are
the
branches.**

As I thought about the crops of our area, my thoughts turned to these words of Jesus (John 15:5): "I am the vine; you are the branches.

If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." These words remind us of that our Father in heaven desires that we live

productive lives as we live a life of love which shows itself in words and actions—that we view ourselves as a vine that is to produce. Christ goes on to say, "This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples." (John 15:8)

It is only because God has connected us to Christ that we are able to bear fruit. For apart from Jesus, we cannot please God or truly do good in His eyes. Just as crops need sunshine and rain to produce, we need to stay connected to Jesus in order to bear fruit. With the fall schedule at our congregation, all of our members have the opportunity to stay connected to our Savior through our worship services, Sunday school and Bible studies. Then, remaining in Jesus, we are able to bear fruit through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Fall is traditionally the time when we think about the harvest. However, throughout the year, we enjoy the fruits of the earth every time we sit down to eat a meal. Our God is truly gracious to us. He provides for us more than what we need. This is not only true of daily bread but also when it comes to our spiritual blessings in Christ. In light of this compassionate and generous God, I pray that you would seek to stay connected to Christ, and in so doing, bear much fruit. There are some of the ways the fruit of faith can show itself:

- ♦ By being slow to anger and abounding in love
- ♦ By not using foul language, rather, speaking words which build up others
- ♦ By working on your marriage
- ♦ By raising children in the fear and love of God
- ♦ By supporting God's ministry in our congregation
- ♦ By being a good neighbor and worker

With God's help, may we all bear a bountiful harvest!

Pastor Dave

F-M Lutherans for Life 2013 Fall Dessert Banquet

Please mark your calendars to attend the Lutherans for Life fall dessert banquet from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 13, at St. Andrews Lutheran Church, 1005 First St. W., West Fargo. Guest speaker will be Laura Davis, director of a new program at the national level of Lutherans for Life. Formerly known as Generations for Life, Y4Life is an initiative designed to reach out to the youth and young adults of our church and equip them, in their own unique context, to be Gospel-motivated voices for life. Through educational materials, programs, and service training, Y4Life will help these students and young adults, part of Generation Y, answer the question that the name implies: Why should we be "For Life?" What does that look like in our lives? How can we help others believe and act the same way?"

Although we encourage our youth and young adults to attend, Laura's presentation will inform and inspire an intergenerational audience with how Y4Life is helping youth around the nation become involved and how, in turn, they are giving LFL the boost in energy, motivation and enthusiasm we need.

This is a good opportunity to enjoy a great speaker, a short program and fellowship with other pro-life Christians. Attendance is free. You will be able to enjoy a selection from a variety of delicious pies and have an opportunity to contribute to a free-will offering to support the mission projects of the Fargo-Moorhead LFL chapter. Child care will be available upon request with your pre-registration.



September Youth Events

Upcoming Bible Study Opportunities



Wednesday, Sept. 4 from 7:45-9 p.m. Youth Bible Study for grades 7-12
Wednesday, Sept. 11 from 7:45-9 p.m. Youth Bible Study for grades 7-12
Wednesday, Sept. 18 from 7:45-9 p.m. Youth Bible Study for grades 7-12
Wednesday, Sept. 25 from 7:45-9 p.m. Youth Bible Study for grades 7-12

Upcoming Fellowship Events

Sunday, Sept. 15 –Youth Group Paintball. All kids in sixth through 12th grades and their family and friends are invited for a day of paintball from 1-6 p.m. at Valley Paintball. We will meet at BSLC at 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$15 if you have equipment and \$45 without equipment. The church will provide drinks but you can bring your own snacks and beverages. You **MUST** fill out a waiver and permission form to attend this event. For more information, please see Pastor Chris.



Sunday, Sept. 29 – Bonfire and Hayride: Get a feel for the fall season with youth from other area LCMS churches at a bonfire and hayride during our Zone Fall Rally. The event will be from 5-9 p.m. and include Bible study, food, games and more. We will meet at Beautiful Savior at 4:30 p.m. and drive to Trinity Lutheran Church in Sabin. Please fill out a form and return to Pastor Chris as soon as possible. Cost is \$5.



Upcoming Servant/Fund Raising Event

Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 12-13 – Homeless and Hungry: All youth and their families can take a stand against homelessness in the area by participating in Homeless and Hungry. Participants are asked to fast, raise money, sleep outside on the church lot in a cardboard box and do service events in the community. The event starts at noon on Saturday, Oct. 12, and ends around 6:45 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 13. The registration packets will be available soon.

LIFE
walk 2013
firstchoice CLINIC Putting Life First!



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28
REGISTER 8:30 AM
WALK 9:00 AM -10:00 AM

FARGO
RED RIVER ZOO

WANT TO BE A WALKER? OR SPONSOR A WALKER!
REGISTER ONLINE OR CALL 888-237-6530
www.teamfirstchoice.com

Three Sites • One Mission
888.237.6530

FIRSTCHOICE CLINIC
www.TeamFirstChoice.com

Fargo • Bismarck • Devils Lake
mona@FirstChoiceClinic.com

LifeWalk and Spaghetti Dinner Events Sept. 28

At 9 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 28, be a walker at the Red River Zoo for LifeWalk sponsored by FirstChoice Clinic.

Then head over to Grace Lutheran School for a delicious spaghetti dinner between the hours of 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

You're not only supporting two wonderful programs but getting some fresh air and a good meal to boot!

GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL
38TH ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH
11:00 AM - 7:00 PM

-TICKETS-
ADULTS-\$9.00 | CHILDREN-\$5.00

Grace Lutheran School Gymnasium
1025 14th Avenue South
Fargo, ND 58103

Generously Sponsored by:
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans



All Sixth-Twelfth Graders Are Invited to Our Youth Praise Band Kickoff



Hey sixth- to twelfth-graders! The Youth Praise Band would love to have you join us at our kickoff at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 8 with pop and pizza for everyone. You don't

need to be musical—just come for pizza and fun this first night. Praise band practices will be held from 7-8 p.m. on Sunday evenings. If you have any questions, please call Ramsey at 866-5403.

Sunday School Registration and Teachers Needed

September is here, and school is back in session. It also means Sunday School starts at BSCL! Sept. 8 is the first day of Sunday School, and we are excited to see everyone again! Our church is blessed with many children in our congregation who benefit from attending Sunday School and learning about our Savior. However we need teachers and need the help of our congregation members. We are grateful to those who have taught for repetitive years. We would like help from others in our church family who may not have had the opportunity in the past. You do not have to create lesson plans as all curriculum

is written out for the teachers. If many people volunteer, we have the ability to set up team teaching which would limit the number of Sundays to one person is committed. We have always said that it takes a village to raise a child. Well, BSCL has 140 children in our "village," and we need everyone's help in building understanding and faith in our children. Please consider volunteering with our Sunday school. If you have questions, please talk to Pastor Chris, Dawn Thompson or Denise Doeling.



Pre-K - 6th Grade Christian

Education Registration Form

As you fill out this form, print clearly. Then mail or return it to the church office as soon as possible.

Name of parent(s): _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

<u>Names of Children</u>	<u>Birthdate</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Grade (2013-2014)</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

I am interested in helping in the following areas:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher/Team Teacher | <input type="checkbox"/> Help with Music |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Classroom Assistant | <input type="checkbox"/> Help with Christmas Program |

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

2601 23rd Ave. SW ■ Fargo, ND 58103

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Contact Us

PHONE : (701) 293-1047
EMAIL: office@bslcfargo.org
WEB: www.beautifulsaviorfargo.com

Office Hours

9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday
9 a.m.—noon Friday

Additionally, Pastor Dave and Pastor Chris are available by appointment.

Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship at 8:15 and 10 :45 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Holy Communion is celebrated on the first and third Sundays of each month.

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CHURCH STAFF

Pastor

David Wagner
701-293-1047

Associate Pastor

Chris Waldvogel
701-293-1047
701-893-6995

Administrative Assistant

Vicki Peihl
701-293-1047

Council Members

Chairman: Brad Cogdill 237-3821
Vice-Chair: Robert Gregerson 793-4845
Treasurer: Mike Herrmann 237-4820
Secretary: Theresa Gehler 241-9736
Properties: Scott Simonson 280-2552
Education: Dawn Thompson 233-6511
Education: Denise Doeling 237-9378
Stewardship: Mike Schlichtmann 235-6383
Evangelism: Tim Deitemeyer 793-2220

Board of Elders

A-Bo Paul Asche 297-9316
Br-D Dave Anderson 218-298-0135
E-G Matthew Deardoff 605-261-3013
H-K Nathan Gannon 205-4606
L-N Craig Hashbarger 799-7451
O-R Adam Tykwinski 793-8170
S Dave Eggers 218-287-3789
T-Z Steve Thielman 293-7933

Elders are assigned families based on last name

Other Volunteers

LWML President: Rhonda Hoge 239-9800
Prayer Chain Coordinator: Shirley Nordstrom 277-1185
Sunday School: Dawn Thompson 233-6511
Choir Director: Ramsey Dahl 237-9009
Flower Coordinator: Mardi Schlichtmann 235-6383
RRLA Board Representatives: Brad Palmer 364-9775
Jane Thielman 293-7933
Financial Secretaries: Beth Gustafson 239-9090

THIS PUBLICATION

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