### July 2014

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Do you go to the lake for the summer? Please keep us updated with your address, phone number and e-mail. Newsletters can be e-mailed to you but are not forwarded and instead returned to the church at a cost.

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

## This Book Really is Better than the Movie Pastor Chris

Blockbuster season has arrived! With it comes real or imagined peer pressure to see all the latest movies so you can keep up at the water cooler (I am showing my age) and maybe, more accurately, post your take on social media.

But before you extol the virtues of the latest irreverent or ultraviolent choice, remember that movies with more religious themes have become available and made a good showing. The recently released "Alone but not Alone," follows on the heels of such films as "God's not Dead," "Heaven is for Real," "Noah," and "Son of God."



Many Christians in our circles wonder if such movies should be embraced or avoided. These films certainly offer much more God-pleasing fare than movies such as "22 Jump Street," but a word of caution is still in order: Hollywood is still Hollywood. On some level, these movies call for just as much discernment as secular films.

The story of a young boy experiencing heaven, for example, should not be seen as a validation of God's promises over and above God's promise given in Scripture. Nor should any doctrine be taken from this account. "Son of God," likewise, provided a fine film experience, but many episodes and quotes were taken out of context and certain characters ignored or elevated – all to fit the film's vision, many times in varied contradiction to and competition with the Biblical accounts. And Noah? Well, let's just say that the context of the flood finds no real parallel in the pages of sacred scripture.

(continued on page 2).

## Patriotic Outdoor Worship July 4 in Moorhead

Our Redeemer Lutheran will

hold their annual patriotic worship at 7 p.m. Friday, July 4. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please bring your own chair and stay afterwards for kids' activities and refreshments and then watch the MSUM fireworks later. Our Redeemer is located at 1000 S. 14 St., Moorhead, MN. An offering for Habitat for Humanity also will be taken. In case of

rain, events will be held inside the church.

## Carol LeMier Celebration

On July 6, 1989, Carol had a kidney transplant. Her donor was her brother Paul. In honor of this silver anniversary event, Carol and Paul would like to share with all BSLC members cake and coffee between worship services on July 6. Please stop in the fellowship hall that morning to celebrate with the family!

## This book really is better than the movie

(continued from page 1).

Pastor David Suelzle at Grace Lutheran gave some great advice to follow: "If you want to be entertained, go see one of these movies, but if you really want to learn more about God and His truth, read the Bible."

The danger is to shape our belief based on movies, using this medium to forge our faith and our views of truth. However, it is better by far, indeed necessary, to view each of the films from the revelation of scripture for the truth. In other words, the Bible should shape how we evaluate the movies; the movies should not shape how we evaluate the Bible. While cinema can be a fine reflection of life, it's never unadulterated truth The Bible, however, is the Spirit-guided word of God – His unerring revealed truth given to us so that we might know the one, true God and His salvation through the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.



You want to know about the Son of God? The flood? The promise of heaven? Pick up the Scriptures! As Paul once exhorted the young pastor Timothy: "Continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom

you have learned it, and how from childhood, you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus, (2 Tim. 3:14-15.)





## **Summer Camp**

Family, horse or splash camps. Geocaching or fishing camps. You can find your child's interest at Lutheran Island Camp or Shepherd's Hill at the

Crossroads. Camps not only provide a source of summer fun; they offer an opportunity to grow in faith. Scholarships are available from our church as well to help offset the cost.



Pick up a brochure in the narthex for schedules and prices. Or go to their websites for more information.

www.shretreat.org and www.islandcamp.org.



# Tuesday Evening Bible Study "A Walk through the Life of Joseph"

(The Power of Forgiveness)

Join us at 7 p.m. Tuesdays as we follow the roller-coaster ride of Joseph in the book of Genesis. We will also consider how Joseph gives us a preview of how Jesus Christ deals with us. This study is arranged so that you may join at any time.



# Women's Bible Study "Pew Sisters"

Mondays or Thursdays

Throughout the summer, there is a Bible study for women that "tells what God has done" in the lives of real women in the church today. From alcoholism to cancer, to postpartum depression, 12 different women share the story of God's faithfulness in their lives for the consolation of their sisters in Christ. This study meets at 5:15 p.m. on Monday evenings and at 9 a.m. on Thursday mornings.



## July Service Group

For the month of July, Wanda Roesler is our captain and our group consists of the last names who begins with the letters Br-D. She will call you asking for fellowship treats or to help out with a funeral or other events. Please help



support our congregation by giving your time, talents and treats. Christian fellowship is a vital part of our ministry at BSLC as a means to share the joys and sorrows of individual members and it takes all of us working together for the good of Christ's church. Thank you for all you do as members of the BSLC faith community.

## Remember Your Offerings

As you enjoy the summer and take time to relax and travel, we ask you to remember honoring the Lord through your weekly offerings for the support of our ministry. As always, there is a



need as we continue to carry on our Lord's mission and your gifts of money are appreciated. If you are not able to make it to worship on Sunday, we encourage you to mail or drop off your offering to the church office.

## **Honor and Privilege**

There are many things in our society that are considered to be an honor and privilege to do. These things include throwing out the first pitch for a baseball game, singing the national anthem before an event and being chosen to represent a school, business or community at a special occasion. Sometimes the privilege and honor involves some specific type of work. This can refer to those serving in the armed forces or it can refer to people who offer themselves to work at a worthwhile organization.

Have you ever had a special honor or privilege to do something? Sure you have! However, we often take the simple and ordinary things in life and disregard just how honorable they are to do. It think this happens often when it comes to living out our Christian faith.

It is a blessing to be a part of God's family because of what Jesus Christ has done for us. But it is also an honor and privilege to be able to serve God on behalf of our Savior Jesus Christ.

As St. Paul wrote to the Christians in Corinth, he spoke about the attitude and actions of other Christians. He declares in 2 Corinthians 8:3-5, "For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded



with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints. And they did not do as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God's will."

#### By Pastor Dave

These Christians considered helping out others as a wonderful privilege. I wonder if sometimes we get so busy with what is happening in our own lives that we fail to see the great honor in serving others. I think most Christians would agree that there is an honor in helping others. But helping others is not always easy or fun. Serving others takes time and energy. It can be work. Nevertheless, it is important to do.

I am so glad that Jesus did not hesitate to come down and serve us. Christ accepted the burden and work of being our Savior. He allowed himself to be treated in the most unhonorable way



possible by dying on the cross. He was disgraced so that we might be graced by God. This changes how we see things. As He gave himself to us, we give to others. As the Christians Paul spoke about, hopefully, we see it as a privilege to serve other Christians.

I pray that you would see how you might serve or continue to serve God in your family as well as in our church family. Fall will soon be here. There are various activities and ministries that will again be starting up. There are positions on the boards of Outreach and Stewardship that need to be fulfilled. Sunday School will also be starting and there are many positions that need to be filled. There are things to do. It is an honor and a privilege to do them.

God bless!



#### Deaths

Odessa May Gietzen, four-month-old daughter

of Raphael and Nicole Gietzen, passed away on June 2, 2014. She leaves her parents, siblings Aidric, Natalya, Ellianna and Atticus; her grandparents Bonnie Rieck, Russell and Anh Giezten; and many aunts, uncles and cousins. The funeral was held at BSLC on Friday, June 6, with Pastor Dave presiding.

#### Memorials to BSLC

Muff Brandt's' mom Harlan & Irene LeMier Pastor Chris Waldvogel Pete Anderson



Gone Too Soon

Maggie Stende's mom Steve & Maxine Rust Ed & Carol Herrmann Gary and Maggie Stende

Odessa Gietzen Glen & Jodi Haekenkamp Pastor Dave and Kim Wagner

#### 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 Coffee Fellowship for both men and women of any age. Stop in when you can.

## Quilting Will be July 24

Quilting will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday, July 24. All women of any age (men too) are invited to come to our fun quilting day. You don't need to be good at sewing in order to participate.

## Thank you

Wow, once again our Weird Animals Vacation Bible School program was a success thanks to all the help!



Words cannot express just how appreciative we are for all the donations of food and other items needed for the kids. Thanks to the wonderful crew leaders and helpers who spent their evenings working with the kids. Thanks to Pastor Chris, Dawn Thompson and Denise Doeling for overseeing the VBS program. And finally, thanks to all the parents who brought their children to experience the Weird Animals program. We look forward to next year's VBS and your continued support!

### Church Picnic at Lindenwood Park 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, July 22

Plan now to attend the BSLC summer picnic at Lindenwood Park at the Rotary Shelter by the main playground. Bring a dish to share.

The church will furnish hot dogs,



buns and lemonade. There will be games for the kids. It's a fun time of fellowship for our church.

#### Gold Club Lunch

Noon on Wednesday, July 16

Are you 55 or older or retired? Be sure to come to the church at noon, Wednesday, July 16, for a delicious potluck. Bring your favorite dish to share (or try a new recipe). This lunch is for all people age 55 and older that are members of BSLC (and bring guests if you want) and gives members a chance to visit and have a good time.

## Please Save Used Stamps

Please bring in your used stamps and place them in the drawer marked stamps by the LWML kiosk.



#### **LWML News**

There will not be an LWML meeting in July. Our next meeting will be at 7 p.m. Thursday, August 7, at the home of Rhonda Hoge.

The ND LWML District Convention in Wahpeton in June was well represented by BSLC members. We were proud to have Rhonda Hoge serve as convention manager. Jeanne Barchinger was honored as an Unsung Hero. Loretta Swanson and Donna Ceroll were voting delegates. Others attending were Karen Mart-Taverna and Mary Seiffert, who served as a teller for officer voting.

The 2014-2016 grants that were voted in that our mites will go to:

ND District Full-time Church Worker Scholarships	\$35,000
Providing Spiritual & Emotional Care for Pastors tors	8,000
Food/Clothing Co-Op at Concordia Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN	N 5,000
Christ the Way Radio Ministry	5,000
Kenya Africa Rescue CentersProject 24	5,000
Playground at Shepherd's Hill Retreat	5,000
Martin Luther School Tuition Assistance	5,000
Bibles for Peace Officer's Ministries	5,000
All Faiths Chapel Music Ministry in Grafton, ND	1,500
Sudanese Lay Pastor Training at BSLC Fargo	1,500

The chart below shows the mission grants that were paid in full. Thanks to those who gave at our Loose change Sundays, brought in used postage stamps and donated through the Mite boxes. What an awesome result that comes from coins and used stamps!

Mission Grants					
Mission Grants for the 2012-2014 Biennium					
Grant	Total	Paid	Balance		
1. ND Full-time Church Workers Scholarships [NEW STANDING RULE –this grant appears first]	\$35,000	\$35,000	PAID		
2. Orphan Grain Train—North Dakota	\$7,500	\$7,500	PAID		
3. Project 24—Orphanages in Kenya	\$5,000	\$5,000	PAID		
4.Restoring Security for His Children—Minot Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch	\$5,000	\$5,000	PAID		
5. Women's & Children's Shelter at Standing Rock	\$5,000	\$5,000	PAID		
6. Christ the Way Radio Ministry	\$5,000	\$5,000	PAID		
7. Martin Luther School Tuition Assistance	\$2,850	\$2,850	PAID		
8. Veterans of the Cross	\$2,000	\$2,000	PAID		
9. Holy Cross Bismarck Kitchen Fund	\$650	\$650	PAID		
	\$68,000	\$68,000	ALL PAI		



## What Quenches Your Thirst?

Are you thirsty and trying to find the beverage that will quench your thirst? Find out by attending the LWML Women's Retreat that will be held at the Chieftain Motel in Carrington from Sept. 19-21.

The retreat theme is "What Quenches Your Thirst" and is based on John 14:4. Jesus told the Samaritan woman at the well "But whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst." At the retreat we will study God's word, take a closer look at how people answer this question and what God has provided to "Quench Our Thirst."

Our guest speaker, Elaine Bickel, is principal of St. Paul Lutheran School, Millington, MI. She has authored numerous Concordia Publishing House curriculum materials for Sunday Schools, Vacation Bible Schools and Lutheran Day Schools. She has written Bible studies, devotions and articles for the LWML Quarterly. She also was the humorous speaker at the LWML Convention in Pittsburgh in 2013.

This retreat is an opportunity for women to take some time away from their busy days and spend time with your sisters in Christ. Come and enjoy this time of studying God's Word, growing in service, fellowship and fun. All women of our congregation are invited to attend and bring your friends and relatives.

## **Remembering and Not Forgetting**

"What must I do to inherit eternal life?" asked the rich young ruler. Jesus said, "You know the commandments." And he replied, "All these I have kept from my youth." And Jesus said to him, "One thing you lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me" (Luke 18:18–22).

As we listen to this, one question is raised in our minds: Is Jesus speaking to us also or only to the rich young ruler? In other words, is Jesus telling us to sell all that we have and give it to the poor?"

As good Lutherans, we answer, No! But why? Why should we not sell all that we have and distribute it to the poor? The simplest explanation is this: If we sold everything we have, our wife and our children would be neglected. In other words, to sell everything we have and give it to the poor would ignore, even abandon, those whom God has placed in our care. Our money, everything we have, is not to be used solely for the church. But that doesn't mean it isn't to be used for the purpose God intends.

Everyone has three stations in life, three spheres in which we live and are to be of service to our neighbors. These stations are the church, the family, and society. We are members of all three of these by birth. We are born into the church by water and the Word of God, and our duties to others in the church arise from either our birth into the church or the birth of others by baptism into it. We are born into a family and our duties to others stem from either our birth into that family or the birth of others into our family. Finally, we are born into society, which is simply a further extension of our birth into our family. The duties we have toward other members of society come from either our birth or the birth of others into the same society.

Stewardship Article (From Synod)

All that we have are to be pressed into service for the church, the family, and society. If we were to sell all we have and give only to one, the other two would be neglected, and our duties toward them would falter.

So consider your life and all that you have in light of these three stations. You pay taxes to support and help those in society. You save for college for your children, provide food, clothing, and shelter for the members of your family.

But the one that is usually thought of last is the church. Since the needs of the family and society are more immediate, the church is often given what is left over. This is not how it should be. Rather, we are

to give of our first fruits, from off the top, the best, even as Abel gave the best of his flock.



This requires forethought and intent. It means that you sit down and make a plan of what you will give from the beginning. It means sticking to it even when it seems that there are other more immediate and pressing things.

Why? Because all that we have and all that we are is given to us by our gracious and giving God. He spared no expense for us and our salvation. He gave up His Son into death so that our sins are forgiven, and we will live. What is more, He provides for all that we need for this body and life. And our lives in this world, among these three spheres of the church, the family, and society, are to mirror the generosity of the one who gave us life in all three by birth.

Don't let the church, your divine family, be ignored or even be an afterthought. It is nurturing you, bringing you up in salvation by Word and Sacrament for eternal life.

## Thrivent Financial Night at the RedHawks

The annual Thrivent night at the RedHawks will be Thursday, Aug. 7. The picnic begins at the East entrance at 5:30 p.m. and the game starts at 7:02 p.m. Cost is \$8 per person and checks are to be made out to FM RedHawks. Reserve your ticket by July 20. Watch announcements for more information.









#### Grace Lutheran School News

The Grace Diplomats will have a meeting at 7 p.m. on July 9 upstairs at Grace Lutheran School.



There will be an Open House from 2–5 p.m. on July 16 and Aug. 6 at Grace School. This is for Pre-K through eighth grade students and their families who are interested in finding out more about Grace Lutheran School. Please feel free to stop by and see the facilities, the curriculum and visit with the principal Mrs. Syverson and marketing director Kari Lugo.

## Harlan and Esther Wallum Scholarship Fund

Are you thinking about where you or your children may go for college? Consider one of our LCMS universities. Grants



are available to assist youth and adults who wish to begin, continue or advance their education from an LCMS university or seminary. Applications are available in the church office.

## July Youth Events

#### **Upcoming Bible Study Opportunities**

During the summer, our Lutheran Youth Fellowship (LYF) will be held from 7:45-8:45 p.m. on the first and third Wednesdays of the month, except the first week of July. All those in grades seven through 12 are encouraged to attend LYF, which includes devotions, games, off-site trips and more.



We will meet:

July 16

August 6 and 20

#### **Upcoming Fellowship Events**

**Tuesday, July 15-Tubing Trip on the Ottertail River.** All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to our annual tubing trip. We will meet at Beautiful Savior at 9 a.m. for Bible study then travel to our destination. Please bring \$13 for transportation and shuttle rental. Also bring extra cash for lunch at Detroit Lakes and ice cream on the trip back to Fargo. We will return around 7 p.m. Please fill out a form and turn into the office by July 8. You also need to fill out a liability release and medical authorization form. Friends are welcome to come too.





**Sunday, July 20-Paintball Day.** All junior and senior high and parents are invited to gear up for paintball games from 12:30-7 p.m. Sunday, July 20. We will meet at BSLC at 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$45. Drinks and snacks are available at an extra cost. Please fill out a form and your payment for this event as soon as possible. For more info, please see Pastor Chris.

Tuesday, July 29, through Tuesday, Aug. 5: Servant Event to Caldwell, Ohio, along with trip to Creation Museum and Cedar Point (Roller Coaster Capital of the World). Take part in this servant event to do light yard and house work for those unable to do it themselves. All those in ninth grade and above are invited to attend. As part of our trip, we will visit the creation museum and Cedar Point, the roller coaster capital of the world. This event is limited to only 12 participants so sign up as soon as possible. Cost for the trip is \$225 plus the cost of food.



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#### BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

2601 23rd Ave. S., Fargo, ND 58103

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Contact Us** 

PHONE: (701) 293-1047

EMAIL: office@bslcfargo.org

WEB: www.beautifulsaviorfargo.com

**Office Hours** 

9:30 a.m.-1p.m. Monday-Thursday

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

**Worship Schedule** 

Sunday Worship at 8:30 and 10:00 a.m.

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

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Fargo, ND 58102 Permit No. 1068

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#### THIS PUBLICATION

ENLIGHTEN is a monthly publication of Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church.

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