

September 2014

Inside this issue:

Bible Studies	2
Women's Bible Study	2
Sept. Service Group	3
FirstChoice Clinic LifeWalk	3
LWML News and Events	3
District Convention Delegate Needed	4
Gold Club Potluck	4
Memorials	4
Baptisms and Weddings	5
Quilting	5
Priorities Article	5
Pastor Chris' Article	6
Family Outreach Event	6
Lutherans for Life Fall Dessert Banquet	7
Youth Praise Band	7
Youth Events	7

When You Wish Upon a Star

By Pastor Chris

You know the song. Allow me to add a little perspective.

When you wish upon a star, your dreams might come true, but you are breaking the first commandment.

In His explanation to the first commandment, Martin Luther writes that we should fear, love and trust in God above all things. Yet, when we don't get our way, we often turn to other solutions. People make hopeful wishes on stars, birthday candles, talismans and other "luckydoos" in hopes of making things go their way.

And if it works, we just assume God wants it that way. If it doesn't work, we might assume God isn't the right answer for what we truly need.

Yet Jesus asks us to look at the wants of this life with a more discerning eye. "For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul?"

In other words, when we place our trust more in something other than God, that can lead to an erosion of saving faith as we begin to trust in something else. If faith in God is lost, that has disastrous consequences as salvation itself is lost.

(continued on page 2.)



Fall Worship Starts Sunday, Sept. 7



8:15 am Praise Band Worship
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 9:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study
 10:45 a.m. Traditional Worship

I rejoiced with those who said to me,
 "Let us go into the house of the LORD."

Palm 122:1

Fall Activities Start-Up Schedule

Summer sure flew by! With school starting, the church activities start up too. Listed below are start up times and days.

Sept. 3 6:30 p.m. Praise band practice
 Sept. 9 7 p.m. Tuesday Bible Study
 Sept. 10 6:15 p.m. Confirmation
 7:30 p.m. Choir Practice
 7:45 p.m. Youth group
 Sept. 14 7 p.m. Youth Praise Band

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

When You Wish (Continued from page 1.)

Scripture is clear: No one is worthy of our prayers and worship other than God - not angels, saints, or anything else in all creation. When John received His vision of the river of life in the midst of the new heavens and new earth, he was so overcome with spiritual joy he began to worship the revealing angel and was sternly rebuked to worship God alone, (Rev. 22:9).



Isaiah 44 and 45 recounts the folly of worshipping idols. The Lord himself declares, "I am the first and the last; beside me, there is no god," (Isaiah 44:6b). God warns the people to avoid praying to idols of wood and stone. Why? They are false gods who cannot save.

You might get your wish when you rely upon a star, but you lose the firm foundation in where trust should truly be placed.

In the midst of all our wishes, God comes to us offering blessings far beyond what we imagine – all grounded through salvation in Christ alone. Luther reminds us of the comfort of God's providence that "for those who cling to God alone, His mercy is certain ... the divine Majesty comes to us with so gracious an offer, He so heartily invites us (and empowers us) to take it, and He attaches so rich a promise to it that, if we desire every good for time and eternity, all this surely ought to move and drive us to fix our hearts in total trust upon God."

God's richest blessings, not wishes, are already yours in Jesus.

Pastor Chris

Sunday Morning Bible Study

"Encounters with Jesus"

9:30 a.m. starting Sept. 7

What is my purpose in life? What is a good life? Why is there so much wrong with our world? What can I do to help make it right? These are some of the big questions that everyone must answer. And any lasting change in our lives will start with a change to one or more of our answers to these questions.

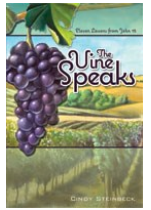
Jesus changed the lives of people he met in the Gospels. In our Bible study on Sunday morning, we will not only examine how people were changed when they met Jesus, but also how God changes us through our encounters with Him.



New Women's Bible Study Begins in September

"The Vine Speaks"

Monday Evenings and Thursday Mornings



I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in Me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing, (John 15:5). We are living branches of The Vine Jesus Christ. We are grafted to Him; He nourishes us with His Sacraments. He speaks to us in His Word.

"The Vine Speaks" is a conversational Bible study rooted in Jesus' words in John 15 that uses imagery and metaphor of the vineyard. Each of these eleven lessons explores how Christ works in us by drawing lessons from the seasons of the vineyard, from the lives of the apostles, from the author's experiences (owner of a vineyard), and from our own circumstances and perspectives.

Sign up now in the narthex to be a part of this Bible study. Cost of the book is \$11. Starting times and dates for the study are 5:30 p.m. Mondays, starting Sept. 15 and 9 a.m. Thursdays, starting Sept. 11.

Tuesday Evening Bible Study

"Galatians for You!"

7 p.m. starting Sept. 9

St. Paul's letter to the Galatians is all about the gospel – the gospel all of us need throughout all of our lives. In this study, we will seek to help you treasure and live out the freedom of the good news that is found only in Jesus Christ.

LWML News



Our next meeting will be at 6:59 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11, at BSLC. We will have a devotion and do further planning for Munchies for Missions. We plan to send out college well-wishes, so please provide your college student addresses to the church office or to Mary Seiffert (mseiffert@marykay.com). Even if you have shared this information in the past, please send an update to ensure the correct information is on record.

Do you know someone in the military? LWML would like their names and addresses to remember them with prayers and cards. Again let the office or Mary know their correct address. Thank you.

Date Set For Munchies for Missions

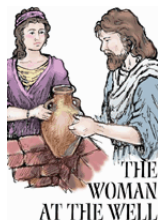
Save the date for the third annual Munchies for Missions! LWML will be hosting the fundraising event from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 6. This enjoyable occasion includes Christmas treats, shopping, soup and sandwiches and even a silent auction.

To provide a silent auction item, please contact Mary Seiffert at 212-3712 or e-mail her at mseiffert@marykay.com. Thank you!

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 is Elaine Bickel, better known as LWML "Mrs. Rogers." She served as the humorous interrupter at the national convention this past summer. Elaine is a very inspirational speaker!

Come and enjoy this time of studying God's Word, growing in service, fellowship and fun with your sisters in Christ. All women of our congregation are invited to attend and bring your friends and relatives.

September Service Group

Rhonda Hoge is our captain for the month of September. Our group consists of the last names that begin with the letters H-K. 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. 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 family.



Annual LifeWalk to Support FirstChoice Clinic Saturday, Sept. 27

- ♦ Walk will begin at the Red River Zoo, 4255 23rd Ave. S., Fargo.
- ♦ Registration and Refreshments at 8:30 a.m.
- ♦ Walk begins at 9 a.m. and will be done by 10 a.m.
- ♦ Register and have fun creating your own walk page at teamfirstchoice.com. Invite your friends and family to support you.
- ♦ E-mail mona@firstchoiceclinic.com or call 237-5902 with questions.

Why walk or sponsor? This is a fundraiser to help empower women and save lives. It's an easy two-mile walk at a pace for any age. Thanks for your support of FirstChoice Clinic.

Baptisms

Aug. 17 - Abigail Beth Kubista, daughter of Adam and Sarah Kubista, born June 24, 2014. Her sponsors were Jerod and Natasha Basol and Matt and Katie Eggl.



Aug. 24- Riley Wayne Wold, son of Kenny Wold and Jackie Wold, born June 19, 2014. His sponsors were Katie Fisher and Chad and Misty Reisner.

Aug. 31-Nyankiir Majak, daughter of Samuel Majak and Mary Garang, born March 11, 2012.

Weddings

Aug. 2-Tyler Scott Jorde and Kayla Elaine Bartholomay at Little Yellowstone Park, Ransom County, ND.



Aug. 15-Darin James Underhill and Sarah Kay Osman.

Funerals

Aug. 20-Duane Fuchs passed away Aug. 15. He was a member of Trinity English Lutheran church, LaMoure. Rev. Thomas Puffe officiated at the funeral at BSLC.

Memorials to BSLC

For Maggie Stende's mother
Gary and Maggie Stende

For Danny Lee's sister
Steve and Maxine Rust

For Beth Gustafson's father
Matt and Beth Gustafson
Steve and Maxine Rust

For Donna Larson and Diane McCabe's mother
Steve and Maxine Rust



District Convention Delegate Needed



Every three years the North Dakota District has its convention. The next one is scheduled for Jan. 18-21, in Grand Forks. Each congregation is to send a pastoral and lay delegate. BSLC is in the process of looking for a lay delegate. Our congregation needs to select one by the middle of September. If you have any interest in becoming a delegate, please contact the church office, one of the pastors or Brad Cogdill (our congregational chairperson).

Gold Club Lunch

Noon, Wednesday, Sept. 17

Calling all BSLC members age 55 and older and/or retirees: come to our monthly potluck! It's a fun time to share good food and visit with others. This month we will meet at noon, Wednesday, Sept. 17, in the fellowship hall. See you there!

BSLC Coffee Club Now Meeting at Randy's



Our BSLC members meet at 9 a.m. on Fridays at Randy's University Diner, 2130 University Dr. S., Fargo. This time of fellowship is to get to know other BSLC members and is for both men and women of any age. Join us anytime.

Quilting in September

Our quilters will meet at 10 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 11, and Thursday, Sept. 25. Please feel free to stop by and see what quilting is all about. There's always a need for people to tie or help lay out designs.

Please Save Your Used Stamps

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

[Pastor Dave came across this devotion by Ken Klaus. In place of his own article, he encourages you to read this and then to consider your priorities. Daily devotions from Ken Klaus can be found by going to the church's website (www.beautifulsaviorfargo.com) or by going to the Lutheran Hour Ministries homepage at lhm.org. You may also want to have the devotions e-mailed to you each day.]

(Jesus said) "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you," (Matthew 6:33)

Robin Williams died. More precisely, the comedian and Academy Award-winning actor took his own life at the age of 63.

The reaction to the news story was immediate and overwhelming. The news media went into a feeding frenzy, and it seemed as if every actor who had ever met Williams, no matter how briefly, felt the need to share his story with the world. Of course, there was that one actor who said William's suicide was selfish, and he should have trusted the Lord rather than taking his own life ... but that fellow, after being chastised and vilified, retracted and apologized for his remarks.

And the public? Well, the public's reaction was also massive. Inquiring minds wanted to know, and eventually, the curiosity seekers ended up crashing the Wikipedia page on Robin Williams.

On the same day Robin Williams died, the World Health Organization was being overwhelmed by the spread of the Ebola virus in Africa. On the day that Robin Williams died, in the name of Allah, Christians in Iraq were slaughtered ... many martyred in ways too terrible to share in this devotion.

In spite of these global disasters, the world's eyes continued to focus on the tragic death of a comedian. The world became preoccupied with a situation about which they could do nothing and left untouched those ongoing problems in which care, compassion and commitment would mean everything.

That is a sad and sorry thing.

Many years ago, I read of a two-day period during which a homeless man, a train maintenance worker, and a dog were killed on New York's subway tracks. Ninety people called the Transit Authority to express concern about the dog, three phoned about the worker and no one about the homeless man.

Wrong priorities are always sad and sorry things.

Jesus knew that having right priorities was incredibly important.

Wishing to encourage proper priorities is why Jesus defended Mary whose great desire was to listen to her Savior (Luke 10:38-42).

To encourage proper priorities, Jesus explained the Pharisees' way of following the Law had missed the point of loving God and your neighbor (Luke 10:25-37).

And if you were to ask the Savior, "What should be at the top of our priorities?" He would say, "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness." And how do we find the kingdom of God? That would come for all those who follow the Savior, who gave His life to save the world.

Seek the Savior. When you have proper priorities, the rest of your life falls into the proper place.

The Prayer: Dear Lord, I pray the world's priorities may not be mine. Let me see with eyes of faith so that I may follow the Savior to eternal life. In His Name I ask it. Amen.

In Christ I remain His servant and yours,



Pastor Ken Klaus
Speaker emeritus of The Lutheran Hour
Lutheran Hour Ministries



Family Outreach Event!

Changing Cultures: Building Bridges to Family, Friends, and Neighbors

Inspiring message and hands-on workshop with the
Lutheran Hour Speaker, Rev. Greg Seltz of Lutheran Hour
Ministry

St. Andrew Lutheran Church

West Fargo, ND

October 4th, 2014

1:30 PM

\$20 Individual \$40 Family, Includes dinner and Childcare 0-5 years
6 years -12th grade: Witnessing event & Service Project

Visit Ourredeemermoorhead.org/#/outreach/the-lutheran-hour-event to register!

Pre-registration encouraged but walk-ins welcome!

Rev. Seltz will preach on Sunday morning, Oct. 5 at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Moorhead, MN at 8:00 and 10:30 AM Worship and Bible study at 9:15. This is a good opportunity to meet, hear, and interact with the Lutheran Hour Speaker, Rev. Seltz. The whole family will walk away **inspired, encouraged, and better equipped to live as Christians in today's world.**



*"So wherever you go, make disciples of all nations...I am always with you" Matt.
28:19-20 (God's Word Translation)*

Mission and Stewardship Meeting

7:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 8

Each year our congregation conducts a fall mission and stewardship campaign. We are looking for volunteers to help plan and carry out this event. Talk to Mike Schlichtmann or Pastor Dave if you have any questions.

Bold Witnesses for Life

8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 18

A Bold Witnesses Conference will take place at St. Andrew Lutheran Church, West Fargo on Saturday, Oct. 18. Rev. Dr. James Lamb will speak on bioethics, abortion, post abortion syndrome and care of the elderly. There also will be presentations on mission and mercy work being done in the ND District. Everyone is welcome to attend. You can register on-line at www.regonline.com/boldwitnessforlifeconference. Call Bill Sharpe at 293-9001 if you have questions.

Fargo-Moorhead Area Chapter Lutherans for Life 2014 Fall Dessert Banquet

Please mark your calendars to attend the Lutherans for Life annual Fall Dessert Banquet to be held from 3-4:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 19, at Triumph Lutheran Brethren Church, 2901 20th St. S., Moorhead. Guest speaker will be Janna Myrdal, chairwoman f or ND Choose Life, the coalition to pass the ND Human Life Amendment, Measure 1, on the ND November ballot. She also is the ND state director for Concerned Women for America. Janna has worked as co-director of the Pregnancy Help Center of Park River, ND, and as a missionary with Youth With a Mission. Her work to help protect life spans many years and many different countries.

Her presentation on "What is the Value of Life" promises to be inspirational as well as educational.

For more information, call Gail Waagen at 306-6283 or e-mail FMLuth4Life@gmail.com

If you have never attended a Lutherans for Life sponsored event and /or would like to learn more about sanctity of human life issues, please visit the website for our national organization at www.lutheransforlife.org. Lutherans for Life is incorporated as a non-profit national inter-Lutheran organization. Its mission is "Equipping Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life."

Youth Praise Band Kickoff



The youth praise band starts practice on Sunday, Sept. 14. There will be a pizza party from 6-7 p.m. and practice from 7-8 p.m. Practice will also be from 7-8 p.m. on Sept. 21 and 28. This is open to all sixth through twelfth graders. If you have any questions, please give Ramsey a call at 866-5403.

Movie Night for Everyone

“God’s Not Dead”

6:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 20

All families are invited for a screening of the movie “God’s not Dead” beginning at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 20, and followed by a short devotion and discussion. The event is free and open to everyone.



September Youth Events



Upcoming Bible Study Opportunities

Wednesday, Sept. 10 – from 7:45 to 9 p.m. Youth Bible Study for grades 7-12

Wednesday, Sept. 17 – from 7:45 to 9 p.m. Youth Bible Study for grades 7-12

Wednesday, Sept. 24 – from 7:45 to 9 p.m. Youth Bible Study for grades 7-12

Upcoming Fellowship Events

Sunday, Sept. 28 – 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 and 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 Events

Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 4-5 – 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. 4, and ends at noon Sunday, Oct. 5. Registration packets will be available soon.

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.—1:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday
9:30 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.

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:	Dan Berglund	371-4499
Education:	Carrie Drees (480)	748-0383
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	541-0930
O-R	Adam Tykwinski	793-8170
S	Dave Eggers	218-287-3789
T-Z	Steve Thielman	293-7933

Other Volunteers

LWML President:	Mary Seiffert	241-9032
Prayer Chain Coordinator:	Shirley Nordstrom	277-1185
Choir Director:	Ramsey Dahl	237-9009
RRLA Board Representatives:	Brad Palmer	364-9775
	Jane Thielman	293-7933
Financial Secretary:	Beth Gustafson	239-9090

THIS PUBLICATION

ENLIGHTEN is a monthly publication of Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church.