

January 2015

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**Your e-mail address is needed. BSLC sends out e-mails when church events are cancelled due to weather or for other important events held at BSLC.**

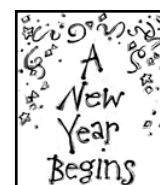


## Greatest Story Ever Told

Word from Pastor Dave

During the Christmas break, I saw the movie-The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies with my son Abram. Like many people, I enjoy movies involving action and adventure. My wife has different tastes when it comes to movies. She likes adventures as well. However, she prefers the quests in movies and books to revolve around romance and comedy. There are a variety of stories in books, on TV, in the movies or in video games that tell one of mystery, adventure, hope and love. They are entertaining. But are they anything close to reality? Do they ever have an impact in our lives?

We are at the beginning of a new year. People try to make predictions about what is going to happen with the economy, relationships between nations and the like. They are guessing what the story will be like in 2015. But most of all, people are interested in what will happen in their own lives in the coming year. There is a desire to have the story of their lives be a good one.



The good news we find in the Bible is that the greatest story ever told is true. It impacts our lives now and forever. It is also a story that involves mystery, danger, adventure and love. It is one of ultimate triumph even if there are dark days. In other words, it is one of hope. It is well worth exploring more in depth. It matters.

Here are some things to remember as the story of your life unfolds in 2015. First of all, there is danger. St. Peter reminds us, "Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour," (1 Peter 5:8).

(Continued on page 2.)

## Mission U Seminar

Equipping to Share:  
Everyday Evangelism  
9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24

You are invited to an outreach training workshop from Mission U, a program of Lutheran Hour Ministries. This will help you learn how to share effectively your faith using three relationship models. The cost is \$5 a person with a light lunch served. This will be held at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1000 S. 14th St., Moorhead, MN. Call 218-233-7569 or e-mail [dcemark20@gmail.com](mailto:dcemark20@gmail.com) to register.

## Take Down Christmas Decorations



Your help is needed at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 10, to help take down all the Christmas decorations at the church. It should only take an hour if we get a lot of volunteers. Thanks for your help!

## Greatest Story (Continued from page 1.)

Even though there is danger and even though we may falter and fall, we have hope because the devil and his demons cannot overpower God and His plans for us. That is why St. John is able to give these words of hope as: "You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world," (1 John 4:4).

To acknowledge that God is powerful is one thing. But what is vital to know is whether God the Father is also caring and compassionate. We have this in a clear and unmistakable statement from the Gospel of John. We hear this truth, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him," (John 3:16-17).



As we begin a new year, my prayer is that the story of your life and loved ones will be rich and full of blessings. Because of Christ, we can be sure that God our Father will do great things. We discover what He has done, is doing and plans to do for us in His Word. This is something that is explored and declared about in every worship service. In light of this, I encourage you to regularly attend worship, read the Bible and attend a Bible Study. These are places where you can see how the greatest story ever told plays out in your life.

Have a blessed New Year.

### Sunday Morning Bible Study: Christianity and the other World Religions

The world horizon is littered with competing religions and philosophies. Which has it right? The bold claims of Christianity or other rival religions? During our Sunday mornings, we will explore using a study put out by Dr. Paul L. Maier.

### Tuesday Evening Bible Study

Begins on Jan. 27

At the end of January and after the District Convention, we will begin a midweek Bible Study on Tuesday nights. Mark it on your calendar and plan to grow in your faith and knowledge of God the Father and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

### Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study

9 a.m. on Jan. 15

The Women's Bible study will begin a new study at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 15. No need to register, just come when you can. The topic of study will be announced soon.

Our Monday evening Bible study will resume again in March.

## Your prayers, thoughts and gifts are greatly appreciated!

We would like to express our thankfulness for the beautiful thoughts, cards and gifts that were given to us and our families at Christmas. We appreciate the love that you show us.

We feel blessed to be part of such a wonderful church family.



Pastor Dave  
Pastor Chris  
Vicki Peihl

## Nominations Needed

Lay leaders make up our Board of Elders and our Church Council and help to lead and support the ministry at BSLC. In January, a nominating committee will begin their work in preparation for elections in March. If you are interested in serving on the nominating committee, please contact either pastor or Mike Schlichtmann, director of stewardship.

## Munchies for Missions Thank You

Thanks to everyone who donated, came, ate and bid at our Munchies for Missions. We had a wonderful turnout. More than \$1,800 was raised. Blessings to you all for your support of our Sundanese ministry.



## North Dakota District Convention is Jan. 18-21

Our North Dakota District Convention will be in Grand Forks this year. This is a time for the churches to gather together to worship, nurture, inspire, enjoy fellowship, and share the communication of vital information. The convention is the principal legislative assembly where the district pastors and congregations take action on reports and overtures and handle appropriate appeals. (Synod Bylaw 4.2.1). Please keep our upcoming convention in your personal and corporate prayers.

This year's representatives from BSLC will be Pastor Chris Waldvogel and layperson Dave Anderson. Thank you for serving!

The special offering collected from each church will go toward Shepherd's Hill at the Crossroads Bible camp and retreat.

## January Service

Kim Wagner is our captain for the month of January. Our group consists of the last names that begin with the letter T-Z. She will call you asking for fellowship treats or to help out with a funeral or other events. Thanks for your support of our church.

## Flower Chart for 2015

The flower chart for 2015 is on the bulletin board by the office. Sign up to place flowers in honor or in memory of your loved ones. Cost of flowers are \$15 and you can leave your check in the office.

## Does BSLC Have.....

Do we have your latest phone number? Many of you have dropped your land line, but BSLC doesn't have your cell numbers. With the new monthly teams, our leaders are unable to reach some of our loyal members.

Also if you are leaving for the winter, please let the church office know. Newsletters are not forwarded and the church is charged each time one comes back. By letting the office know, a newsletter can be e-mailed to you each month until you return to North Dakota. Thanks!

## LCEF Scholarships

Six LCEF scholarships, each in the amount of \$1,000, will be awarded to six graduating high school seniors or current full-time post-secondary students at an accredited institution with at least one year of courses remaining. Candidates must be members of a congregation belonging to the Missouri Synod located in one of the following LCMS districts: Iowa East, Iowa West, Minnesota North, Minnesota South, North Dakota, North Wisconsin or South Wisconsin. The application deadline is Feb. 28.

## "Simply Giving" Automatic Withdrawal for Offerings

Members can choose to have their offerings automatically deducted from their checking or savings account. It is simple to sign up for or to change. Contact the church office for the forms to set up these types of donations.



## Baptisms

Nov. 30 - Victoria Marie Schwan, daughter of Chuck and Jolien Schwan, born Sept. 12, 2014. Her sponsors were Allen Heilman and Sarah Heilman



Dec. 7 - Camden Donald Larson, son of Tyler and LeAnn Larson, born Oct. 22, 2014. His sponsors were Paul and Tricia Asche.

## Deaths

Irene C. LeMier passed away on Dec. 12. Her funeral was held Tuesday, Dec. 16, at BSLC. She leaves behind her husband of 62 years, Harlan, eight children, including Carol, who is a member at BSLC, 22 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

Craig Kracht passed away Dec. 20. His funeral was held Tuesday, Dec. 23, at BSLC. Craig was not a member of Beautiful Savior. However, he did attend worship from time to time. Craig leaves behind his son, Kyle, brother Lance, and parents Nancy and Quinton Kracht.

## Quilting will be Jan. 8 and 22

Quilting will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursdays, Jan. 8 and 22. This is for all ages, so feel free to stop by and help if you can.

## BSLC Coffee Club

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

## Memorials to BSLC

Odessa Gietzen  
Raphael and Nicole Gietzen  
Donna Jemtrud  
Harlan and Irene LeMier



## Thank You

The Christmas programs the kids put on this year were wonderful. Thank you to the parents for bringing their children to all the practices and to those who helped Ramsey Dahl and Pastor Chris with the programs. Your support of our children's events is a blessing to everyone at BSLC!



## Gold Club Lunch

Noon, Wednesday, Jan. 14

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. We will meet at noon Wednesday, Jan. 14, in the fellowship hall. This is a week earlier due to the District Convention in Grand Forks. See you there!

## Elder of the Month

Steve Thielman is our elder for January. He will assist the pastors if there are any needs, greet members and visitors and help see that things run smoothly. Please take time to get to know our elders and let them know if you have any ideas or concerns for our church.



## Save Labels and Box Tops

Please continue to save Campbell's and General Mills Box Tops for Education, My Coke Rewards points from bottle caps and box codes, SunMart and Family Fare receipts, Our Family brand bar codes, and Cash Wise education points from the bottom of the receipt. There is a collection bin next to the water fountain in the narthex at BSLC, or you can drop them off at the school in the front hallway. Thank you.

## 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.

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## When 'Freedom in Christ' Goes Too Far

Word by Pastor Chris

From an early age, Lutherans learn that salvation only finds its power and efficacy in what God does for us, not what we do for him. There is no way for us to work our way to heaven. Instead, God comes down to us in the person of Jesus Christ, who bore our sins on the cross.

This means that when we fall short, when we sin in weakness, when we mess up, we can count on the mercy of God through Jesus. Even though we have been corrupted by sin, we still have a faithful God who views us favorably on account of Christ and actively comes calling to convert and keep the sick, broken sinner in faith.

But our impudence knows no bounds. When we hear that we are free in Christ, our evil minds and hearts can warp this godly gift into a self-imposed free reign to willfully break the laws God has established. Christ can become lost in the shuffle as we worship freedom itself.

I would like to share a few thoughts from author Jonathan Fisk in his book *Broken*:

"It turns out the children have been listening to everything we say, and we've taught them only too well. They are practicing freedom to the full by staying at home on Sunday morning. Taught that 'the Gospel' means freedom to follow your dreams and ignore any stuffy warnings of the past that happen to cramp your spiritual style, those who have drifted away have done so because they have taken the lessons to heart."

Fisk notes that as we take a die-hard approach to pleasing ourselves, on exerting our will, on committing ourselves to doing what we want, (and delusionally calling it Christianity) it amounts to nothing more than spiritual immaturity.

Our own thoughts and our own ways lead to a place where human hubris and pride have always led: away from God and straight into the devil's wheelhouse. God's ways and thoughts and design always surpass our own. Yes, the law is there to lead us to Christ, but it also shows us a better way than our hearts, minds and will seek apart from God's Word.



Yes, we are saved through faith in Christ alone. But faith trusts the words of our Lord. All of them. And those words included keeping his commandments, doing those things He taught. Heaven and earth may pass away, but His words will not.

Your salvation does not come by following the law. It has been won by Jesus. But Christianity is not going our own way; it's knowing that Christ has made a claim on us. Fisk puts it this way: "True Christian freedom begins with believing that the King who brought us back from our sin will not tolerate our use of that freedom to further prop up our rebellion."

That's when Christian freedom goes too far.

*Pastor Chris*

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## Grace Lutheran School News

The Band Concert will be at 7 p.m. Jan. 15.

Kick-off enrollment starts Jan. 15. Five-day, full-day Pre-K available! Check out our website, or contact the school office for an enrollment packet.

There will be an open house at Grace School from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 21.

National Lutheran Schools Week will be Jan 26-30.

The annual dinner and Auction will be March 28 at the Ramada Suites. Tickets are \$50 and available by calling the school at 232-7747.

Giving Hearts Day at Grace will be on Feb 12.

Camp Grace, our summer day camp, will start taking registrations for children ages 4-12 on Feb. 16. There are both full and half-day spots available. Secure your spot before it fills up.

There is a job opening for an energetic and fun individual to assist in our after school program. Hours are 3-6:15 p.m. M-F while school is in session. Start date is Jan. 5. Wage is \$9 an hour. Applicants must be 18 years or older. Download an application at [www.gracelutheralschool.org](http://www.gracelutheralschool.org).

# Christmas Poinsettias 2014

## Poinsettia Placed by:

Kelly and Hope Adam  
Diane Berggren  
Steve and Sue Buth  
Lucas and Alexis Doeling

Mike and LeAnn Herrmann  
Joe and Lori Pytlik  
Judy Rolle  
Chloe and Lizzie Thompson

## Poinsettia Placed by:

Gerald and Joan Fiechtner  
Danny and Diane Lee

## Poinsettia Placed by:

Dave and Sherrie Anderson

Dan, Carrie, Emily and Isaac Berglund  
Dave and Brenda Dale and family  
Gerald and Joan Fiechtner

Your Girls-Sandy, Sylvia, Sally  
Raphael and Nicole Gietzen and family  
Matt and Beth Gustafson  
Larry and Sharon Haarstad  
Sarah and Kristofer  
Ed and Carol Herrmann  
Tim and Janet Koppinger

Donna and Al Larson,  
Diane and Don McCabe  
Karen Mart-Taverna  
Sean, Tina, Olivea and Elle McDonald  
Harvey and Bev Medenwaldt

Brad and Pam Palmer,  
Kyra, Joren, Brennan  
Joe and Lori Pytlik and boys  
Judy Rolle  
Dave and Kim Scheer  
Mike and Mardi Schlichtmann  
Gary and Maggie Stende  
Mark and Kim Ternes and boys  
Steve and Jane Thielman,  
Ben and Nathan  
Steve and Dawn Thompson  
Chloe and Lizzie  
Nancy Tykwinski  
Pastor Dave and Kim Wagner  
Lisa, Harrison and Brooklyn Wiest

## In Honor of:

Our grandsons Madix and Cade  
Gift of her daughter 40 years ago  
Our children and grandchildren  
Grandparents: JP and Judy Wiest  
Gene and Hannalore Doeling

Our parents and children  
Our children  
Mom Darlene  
Grandma Di

## In Thanksgiving:

Grandchildren and great grandchildren  
Our families

## In Loving Memory of:

Our parents: Oscar Hangsleben,  
Les and Viola Anderson  
Brother Gordy Hangsleben  
Bud Berglund  
Our grandma Alice Marie Dale  
Our parents: Ole and Tillie Robberstad  
Fred and Selma Fiechtner

Evan and Lorina Freitag  
Our daughter and sister Odessa May  
Beth's dad Bruce Elsner  
Sharon's father Matt Winkels  
Larry's parents: Peder and Loretta Haarstad  
Our friend Darlene Heck  
Tim's dad: Robert Koppinger  
Janet's parents: Harold and LaDonna Etzel  
Alfred, Roiene and Dennis Kuska

Larry Mart  
Dave McDonald  
Parents: Norman and Winefred Medenwaldt  
Arthur and Earlean Kuehn  
Pam's dad Bob Peterson

Loren Thalmann  
Dad Roger Dahl  
David Jr.  
Eugene Paulsrud  
Our parents  
Duane Matzke  
Parents Jack and Audrey Thielman

Audrey Thompson

Grandmother Esther Bohn  
Randy and Audrey Christianson  
Keith Wiest





# Sanctity of Human Life

FirstChoice Clinic upholds the dignity of EVERY human LIFE from conception to natural death!

**ALL of JANUARY is Sanctity of Human Life month and “The Largest Baby Shower.” Show your support for LIFE and FirstChoice Clinic by donating new baby items to one of our 3 sites Visit [teamfirstchoice.com](http://teamfirstchoice.com) for drop off locations.**

## Client notes from 2014...

“I just wanted to thank you for all your help. We were worried at first, but with your help, it is making everything better. Thank You.”

L.D.



“This place is awesome. It makes me smile to know that this (Family Boutique) was even created to help women...someone had to care a whole lot about us. Thank You.” C.M.

## FirstChoice Clinic - FM Area

1351 Page Drive, Suite 205, Fargo, ND 58103 | 701.237.6530

## Crossfire Schedule Youth Praise Band

Sunday, Jan. 11 7 p.m. Practice  
Saturday, Jan. 24 6 p.m. Practice

Sunday, Jan. 18 7 p.m. Practice  
Sunday, Jan. 25 8:15 a.m. Play in church

Youth praise band is open to all sixth- through twelfth-graders. If you are interested in playing, come to any practice or call Ramsey Dahl at 866-5403 if you have questions.

## January Youth Events

### Upcoming Bible Study Opportunities

**Wednesday, Jan. 7** – from 7:45 to 9 p.m. Destination Unknown for grades 7-12

**Wednesday, Jan. 14** – from 7:45 to 9 p.m. Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 7-12

**Wednesday, Jan. 21** - from 7:45 to 9 p.m. Destination Unknown for grades 7-12

**Wednesday, Jan. 28** – from 7:45-to 9 p.m. Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 7-12

### Upcoming Fellowship Events

**Tuesday, Jan. 13 – National Youth Gathering Meeting.** Are you interested in gathering with 25,000 other young Lutherans July 16-20, 2016 in New Orleans? Come learn about the opportunity to grow in faith while enjoying uplifting speakers, bands and experiences. We will be meeting from 7-8 p.m. to discuss fund-raising opportunities. You must be a high-schooler in the 2015-2016 school year or going into high school for the 2016-2017 school year to attend the gathering.

**Saturday, Jan. 31 – Detroit Mountain Skiing and Snowboarding Trip.** All families can come enjoy a day on the slopes Saturday at the new ski complex in Detroit Lakes. We will meet at 7:30 a.m. sharp at the Beautiful Savior parking lot and return around 6 p.m. or so. Check-in will be at 9 a.m. We will attempt to carpool but will need drivers as well. Cost for the trip for youth includes a lift ticket, equipment rental, a helmet and group lessons. Cost for young kids to fifth grade is \$18. Cost for middle and high school students is \$20. Cost for adults is \$30 for a lift ticket and \$18 for equipment rental. Meals will be on your own. Please fill out a form and return to Pastor Chris as soon as possible.





# 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.

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

## 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 Berglind	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.