

February 2015

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Let's Get Serious

Word from Pastor Chris

Let's get serious.

That seems close to impossible these days. Want proof? I recently checked trending news stories on a large Web site and found these stories:

Bulldog puppy has epic battle with water bottle
 Baby stars in awesome first birthday video invite
 Chameleon bowling is the best thing you will see today
 Pedestrian hit by moped on live TV



Maybe I can make peace with the last story, but the lead story on the page? "Prankster dad turns house into a giant ball pit." Nothing serious happening that day, I guess.

An amusing story from time to time can bring joy to our day and a smile to our face. But when life becomes only amusement, our hearts and minds begin to crave nonsense that just doesn't amount to much.

Let's get serious.

Paul says just as much when he writes, "Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence, but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure."

(Continued on page 2.)

**Chili Feed and
 Silent Auction
 Sunday,
 Feb. 22.
 (See page 3).**

Calling Us Home . . .

A Lenten Sermon Series on 1 Peter
 7 p.m. Wednesdays beginning Feb. 18

The theme for our midweek services this year is "Calling Us Home." Each Wednesday we'll delve into First Peter. It was an important letter for the first Christians, and it continues to be significant for us who are living today. It is rich with guidance and encouragement for Christians living in a world ambivalent or even hostile to the Christian faith. St. Peter reminds the Christians that they are on a journey. When we go on a journey, we can't take everything with us. Join us as we learn truths that are both challenging and comforting for this journey we are on, the journey to our true home in a renewed heaven and earth.



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

Let's Get Serious

(Continued from page 1.)

We may be tempted to think that Paul doesn't sound Lutheran here. But the apostle does not advocate a salvation by works; he does, however, recommend that the Christian remember that much more is at stake in this world than chameleon bowling. But being serious does not mean being dire and dour. It simply means remembering we have something worth talking about, thinking about and sharing: the Gospel's urgent invitation and power.

After all, sin, death and hell are not just stifling myths set to keep people in line; they are harsh realities. With serious awe and reverence, we remember that we live in a world with a serious problem: each of us has been separated from God due to our fallen, sinful nature.

With serious awe and reverence, we remember a loving God who met this serious problem with an even greater solution: sending His son Jesus into this world of sin and death. Through Jesus, God has taken all of this world's sin and death upon himself. He did it by dying on a cross and rising to life again. Through Christ, God has taken away the sins of the whole world!

If that were not enough, Paul writes also about God working seriously in Christians as another testament to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. Indeed, it is why Paul writes with joy on such a serious subject and here reminds us, "For it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure."

Of course, there are times when we will fail, fall short and forget, but we always return to Jesus for forgiveness, hope and renewal.

Such an important message cannot be lost amid ever-increasing amusement overload. Too much is at stake. A puppy-water bottle tussle might bring life to a dull day; Jesus brings life everlasting.



Pastor Chris

Tuition Assistance for Children Attending Grace Lutheran School



Beautiful Savior has tuition funds to help parents send their children to Grace Lutheran School. The assistance forms are available in the church office. If you are requesting assistance, you are asked to sign a covenant agreement. Talk to either pastor if you have any questions. The deadline for submitting the application is the end of March.

Tuesday Evening Bible Study

"The Great Deceiver"
7 p.m. on Tuesdays

In this Bible Study from Lutheran Hour Ministries, we take a look at Scripture's most vile character: Satan. Using host commentary and interviews, and the power of God's Word, "The Great Deceiver" gives the devil his due. This study also shows us how God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to destroy the work of the devil and give us hope now and forever. This study is written in such a way that you may join in at anytime.

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.

Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study

Is decision making easy or hard for you? Our Bible study will focus on how Christ can impact our decisions. Just come when you can. We meet at 9 a.m. Thursday mornings at the church. Our Monday evening Bible study will resume again in March.

Potluck Lent Soup and Sandwich Suppers



You are invited to join us for soup and sandwich suppers starting at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 18, and stay for the worship. Bring sandwiches, soups or treats to share. This year we are asking our service groups to do the setup and clean-up for the Lent Soup and Sandwich Suppers. Please help your service group captain if you can. The groups and dates of service are:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Captain</u>	<u>Last Name</u>
Feb. 18	Mary Seiffert	L-N
Feb. 25	Kay Osman	O-R
March 4	Maggie Stende	S
March 11	Kim Wagner	T-Z
March 18	Donna Ceroll	A-Bo
March 25	Wanda Roesler	Br-D

February Service

Donna Ceroll is our captain for the month of February. Our group consists of the last names that begin with the letter A-Bo. 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.

Chili Feed and Silent Auction is Feb. 22



Warm up for the winter by attending Beautiful Savior's third annual chili feed and silent auction from 5-7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 22. Pay just \$4 for an endless chili bowl and sample some of Beautiful Savior's finest recipes.

Desserts also will be available for purchase. After the chow, stick around for a silent auction.

We would like to involve the entire congregation to contribute to this event. Please consider donating an item for the silent auction. Baskets and gift certificates of any value certainly are welcome. Please see Pastor Chris if you would like to donate.

Please plan to attend this night of fellowship and fun. All proceeds will benefit the Beautiful Savior youth.

LWML News

The LWML has changed their Feb. meeting date to noon on Sunday, Feb. 1. Please come if you can.

There will be a workshop in Mandan on Human Trafficking in ND on April 11. Learn more about human trafficking and how to respond to victims. The hours are from 10 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. with a lunch served. Cost of the workshop is \$10. There also will be a Bible study led by Rev. Dr. James Baneck. An in-gathering of Walmart gift cards will be collected for pastors to use in the oil patch and a free-will offering for mites taken.

A bus has been chartered for anyone wanting to go. The cost is \$25 to ride the bus. Please let Mary Seiffert or Rhonda Hoge know if you are interested in riding the bus. Friends are invited to come too.

Memorials to BSLC

In memory of Irene LeMier

Donald & Sandra Andersen
Roland & Jeanne Barchinger
Diane Berggren
Brad & Lois Cogdill
Carol Erbstoesser
Gerry & Joan Fiechtner
Matt & Beth Gustafson
Ed & Carol Herrmann
Chuck Hoge
Rhonda Hoge
Albert & Donna Larson
Leland Niemann
Dale & Polly Olson
Terry & Margie Opp
Mike & Mardi Schlichtmann
Greg & Mary Seiffert
James & Donna Stewart
Loretta Swanson
Loretta Swiontek
Neil & Karen Taverna
John & Janice Totenhagen



Memorial money for a new organ has been received from Louise Richter's estate.

Baptisms

Jan. 25 - Ryder James Moerke, son of Aaron and Tabitha Moerke, born Dec. 10, 2014. His sponsors were McLane and Amanda Merz; and Derek and Melissa Ravellette.



Jan. 25 - Dennis Marshall Hughes, son of Justin and Bethany Hughes, born Nov. 30, 2014. His sponsors were Jordan and Aaron Hughes; and Jameson and Libby Hall.

Elder of the Month

Nathan Gannon 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.

New Member Corner"

Welcome to Kelly, Traci, Alex and Macy Weible who just joined BSLC. They like our bright and cheerful atmosphere. Kelly and Traci own BeeSee Embroidery and Screen print that keeps them very busy. They all love spending time at Toad Lake. Alex likes to watch football, hunting and fishing. Macy plays volleyball and fastpitch softball for the West Fargo Packers. May God bless your time here at BSLC.



Gold Club Lunch

Noon, Wednesday, Feb. 18

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, Feb. 18, in the fellowship hall. See you there!

Quilting will be Feb. 12 and 26

Quilting will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursdays, Feb. 12 and 26. 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 day you can.



"Next to the Word of God" Seminar

A "Next to the Word of God" workshop will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 7, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Fargo. The presenter Pastor Stephen Starke is an author of 33 hymns texts and tunes in our new Lutheran Service Book. Lunch will be served and a free-will offering taken.

A Special Word to Describe God's Love

Word by Pastor Dave

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. (Psalm 136:1)

As infants and children grow, there are several milestones that we mark. We notice when they can start to roll over, sit up by themselves, crawl and then walk. Another milestone is when they can talk and begin to understand words and phrases. When we recently visited with our daughter, Margot mentioned that her youngest son is now starting to say the words "papa" and "mommy." She thinks that he is also starting to associate those words with them. For our grandson Roman, it is the beginning of learning, understanding and verbally communicating with his parents in a much greater way.

We learn many of our words and what they mean from our parents. What is true about learning from our earthly parents, is also true when it comes to our heavenly Father.

There is a word in the Hebrew language (*chesed*) that is hard to translate into English. If you try to use one word to describe it, the words "love" or "mercy" may be used. But because no single word in our language is adequate to bring out the distinctive quality and broad reach of the word, translators often used adjectives along with the word "love" to try to indicate there is more to it. Depending on which translation of the Bible you use, you may come across the words "lovingkindness," "loyal love" or "steadfast love." It is challenging to translate because it describes God's love towards His people. As one commentator wrote: "*Chesed* is love without regard to shifting circumstances, hormones, emotional states and personal convenience." It is love that continues to love even when people have turned their backs on God and become rebellious. It is a love keeps the promises that it makes. It is a love that gives us full assurance.

This love of God is seen throughout the Bible. However, it comes to its greatest revelation with Jesus. It was God's love that sent His Son to be our Savior. It is the love of God that Jesus demonstrated as he lived, suffered and died for us. This love is far greater than any love we have towards others – even our dearest ones.

As we observe Valentine's Day this month, you do well to remember that you are loved by God and that God's love for is a special love.

Pastor Dave

How great is the
love the Father has
lavished on us, that
we should be called
children of God!
And that is what
we are!

(1 John 3:1)

Grace Lutheran School News

There will be an open house at Grace from 8:50 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 3.

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. Please donate by going to www.impactgiveback.org.

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.

"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.

Election of New Church Officers in March

Are you being called? BSLC is looking for nominations for officers. At our upcoming March 15 voters' meeting, elections will be held for the following positions:

Chairperson,
Vice Chairperson,
Director of Evangelism,
Director of Stewardship,
Director of Christian Education
Two Elder positions

Mike Schlichtmann is chairman of the nominating committee. If you would like to serve or know of someone who might serve well in one of these positions, please contact Mike (235-6383) or Pastor Dave.



Concordia Seminary Official Coming

Rev. Daniel Eggold, admissions officer at Concordia Seminary St. Louis, will be at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Fargo, from 2-6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 18. If you are interested in becoming a pastor or deaconess, either call him at (314)-505-7224 or e-mail eggold@csll.edu or stop by Immanuel that day.

ND District Convention Update

The Rev. Dr. James Baneck of Mandan, N.D., was re-elected as LCMS North Dakota District president to a third and final three-year term during the district's 57th regular convention, Jan. 18-21 in Grand Forks.



Baneck was elected on the first ballot by 67 percent of the voting delegates. He is ineligible for re-election at the next convention in 2018 because of the district's three-term limit for officers.

Also re-elected was the Rev. Arie Bertsch of Minot, N.D., who will serve his second term as first vice president (West Region). The Rev. Tom Eckstein, Jamestown, N.D., was elected to his first term as second vice president (East Region).

The convention — the first of 35 LCMS district conventions that will take place this year — focused on the theme "Baptized for this Moment: Being Lutheran for this Moment," based on 1 Peter 1:3-4.

Among resolutions adopted, delegates voted to align the district's vision and goals with the Synod's focus of "Witness, Mercy, Life Together."

The Sudanese ministry at Beautiful Savior touches on all three focuses of "Witness, Mercy, Life Together." Delegates voted to partner the ND District with BSLC to provide \$8,000 a year to be used for tuition costs and encouraged other churches to reach out and serve immigrant or ethnic populations in their community.

In the area of "Witness," delegates voted to plant two new churches in Watford City and Stanley in western North Dakota, where populations have surged because of the oil boom.

For "Mercy," delegates voted to continue the district's support for "Project 24" — whose mission is to build 24 orphanages in Kenya, East Africa — in partnership with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya. They also voted to explore the possibility of sending a district pastor and a layperson on a mission trip to Santiago, Chile.

In the area of "Life Together," the convention offering of \$37,150 was designated for Shepherd's Hill at the Crossroads, a camp and retreat center in the district.

The convention was greeted by LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, who preached at the opening worship service and later gave his president's report. The convention essayist was Synod Third Vice President Rev. Daniel Preus, who addressed "Being Lutheran for this Moment."

Thank you to Rev. Chris Waldvogel and Dave Anderson for being Beautiful Savior's delegates to the convention.

Summer Bible Camps



It's not too early to think about registering for summer camps for your children. Most camps offer an early registration discount. There are brochures in the narthex or go to the camp websites for more information. Shepherd's Hill at the Crossroads website is shretreat.org. It is located by the Peace Gardens. Lutheran Island Camp website is www.islandcamp.org. It is located on East Battle Lake, MN.

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.

Crossfire Schedule Youth Praise Band

Sunday, Feb. 8 7 p.m. Practice
Sunday, Feb. 15 7 p.m. Practice
Sunday, Feb. 22 6 p.m. Practice

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



February Youth Events

Upcoming Bible Study Opportunities

Wednesday, Feb. 4 – from 7:45 to 9 p.m. Lutheran Youth Fellowship (LYF) for grades 7-12

Wednesday, Feb. 11 – from 7:45 to 9 p.m. No Youth Group

Wednesday, Feb. 18 - from 7:45 to 9 p.m. Lutheran Youth Fellowship (LYF) for grades 7-12

Wednesday, Feb. 25 – from 7:45 to 9 p.m. Lutheran Youth Fellowship (LYF) for grades 7-12

Upcoming Fellowship Events

Sunday, Feb. 22 – Chili Feed and Silent Auction: Warm up for the winter by attending Beautiful Savior's third annual chili feed and silent auction from 5-7 p.m. Pay just \$4 for an endless chili bowl and sample some of Beautiful Savior's finest recipes. Desserts also will be available for purchase. After the chow, stick around for a silent auction. We would like to involve the entire congregation to contribute to this event. Please consider donating an item for the silent auction. Baskets and gift certificates of any value certainly are welcome. Please see Pastor Chris if you would like to donate. All youth who help with the event will earn money toward future mission and servant event trips as well as the 2016 National Youth Gathering.

Saturday, Feb. 28 – Movie Night, *The Passion of the Christ*: All junior and senior high youth and their families are invited to watch *The Passion of the Christ* from 6-9 p.m. at the church. The season of Lent focuses on the suffering and death of the God-man Jesus. We remember that the road to the cross was one of sorrow, pain and betrayal for Jesus, but that He endured it all to win life and salvation for us. Please know that this film includes scenes of extreme violence; Parental permission is required with a signed form.

Sunday, March 1 – Junior High Bowling Day: All junior high youth and their families are invited for a day on the lanes at the Bowler. We will be bowling from 3-5 p.m. followed with a devotion. Cost is \$4 per person.



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
9:00 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
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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:		
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.