

**May 2015**

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## Rooted in Christ

Word from Pastor Dave

At the end of April, we had one of the trees in our backyard cut down. It was a tree we planted during the first few years we lived in Fargo. We received it as a gift. For more than 20 years, it has provided shade in our yard. However, due to several reasons, it was time for it to go. One of them was because the tree had been struck by lightning. Though it continued to grow, it was never the same. Throughout the year, dead branches periodically fell to the ground. Sooner or later it was going to have to come down. We decided that it was better to do it soon.



We will miss the tree and the shade that it provided in the summer. Others will miss it as well. Birds perched in it and made their nests. Squirrels frolicked around in that tree and thoroughly infuriated our dogs in the process.

As we look at trees, we only see part of them. We see what is only above ground. Beneath every tree are its roots. For a tree to grow tall and to endure the storms, it needs to have a good foundation underneath it. Without having a good root system, the tree will not be able to thrive. What is at the foundation of trees as well as other things is important.

(Continued on page 2.)

## Install New Officers

Our new officers will be installed on Sunday, May 3.

Brad Cogdill was re-elected chairman. David Anderson, Craig Hashbarger and Adam Tykwinski were re-elected as elders. Jane Thielman was re-elected to RRLSA; LeAnn Herrmann, vice chairman; Lori Pytlik, evangelism Director; and Jean Berard, stewardship director.

Thanks to Robert Gregerson, Tim Deitemeyer and Mike Schlichtmann for their time serving as officers.

## Join Our "Rock Solid" VBS

Life can sometimes throw obstacles in our way when it comes to our faith. This year's Vacation Bible School lets us know God overcomes those obstacles through His love in Jesus Christ. "Everest," this year's VBS, will be held from 6-8:30 p.m. from Sunday, June 7, to Thursday, June 11. This adventure is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences that kids see, hear, and touch! Bible Point crafts, team-building games and cool Bible songs are just a few of the activities that help faith come alive into everyday life. All kids from age 4 to sixth grade may attend.

Meals also will be available before VBS for a fee.

**STARTING SUNDAY,  
MAY 24  
WORSHIP  
TIMES  
WILL BE  
8:30 A.M.  
AND  
10 A.M.**



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

## Rooted In Christ

(Continued from page 1.)

St. Paul reminds Christians in his letter to the Ephesians about the importance of foundations when it comes to our spiritual life. He also describes it like having roots. So vital is it that he includes it in his petitions before God. Paul prays (3:17-19a) that they might be strengthened through the power of the Spirit so that

“Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge.”

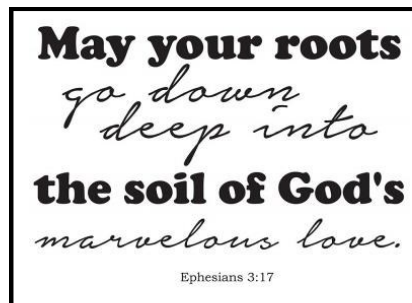
Paul is praying for strong roots that are grounded in love. This is needed so that we may be able to understand everything that God has done for us in Christ. The world is big. The universe is far greater. But even more majestic than all of that is the God who created it all and the God who shows love and tender affection to us because of Jesus Christ.

Christianity is a faith that in one aspect is very simple to grasp.

“God so loved the world that He sent his only begotten Son so that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life,” (John 3:16).

On the other hand, Christianity is a faith that is profound. There is depth not only in knowledge but also in the wisdom regarding how we are to live our lives in love.

There is so much more that God has revealed to us about Himself in the Bible that we can spend a lifetime learning and still not have learned it all. We can spend a lifetime loving others and still find new ways to allow God’s love to shine through us.



When the month of May comes, it is not uncommon for youth to start winding down when it comes to learning and growing. But May also brings the growth of trees, plants, flowers, fields and gardens. My prayer is that you would strive to grow in your Christian faith and knowledge. Don’t go into hibernation. Rather, like a healthy tree, may you grow in your appreciation of God and His love. To help you do this, I ask you to make regular worship and devotions a practice in your life. May your spiritual growth also overflow through your words and actions so that others may also know of our great and compassionate God.

The Lord’s blessings be with you!

*Pastor Dave*

## Last Day of Sunday School

The last day of Sunday school and adult Bible study will be May 18. Thanks to all our teachers and helpers who took time to work with our Sunday school youth. May God bless your summer; and we hope you will be back to help out next fall.

## “Everest” Needs

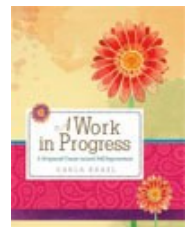
A list of items that will be needed for our VBS program



“Everest” will be listed in upcoming announcements.

## New Women’s Bible Study Starts in May

“A Work in Progress” addresses our desire for self-improvement and puts God’s Word at the center of the discussion. Each lesson talks about a contemporary, worldly topic and probes the question of personal growth while searching God’s Word for the answers. There is a dual emphasis in “A Work in Progress:” a lawful “what we should do and how we should act,” coupled with a focus on Jesus’ love and forgiveness for our human shortcomings. The study starts at 9 a.m. Thursday, May 7, or 5:30 p.m. Monday, May 11. Cost of the book is \$13. Please sign up in the narthex.



## "Christ's Church in the World" Sunday Morning Bible Study

9:40 a.m. in the fellowship hall

Can anyone remained unchanged after the resurrection of Christ? The simple answer is "no." Looking at the book of Acts, we see that the disciples were transformed by God and the world has never been the same. We invite you to join us for three Sundays in May as we explore several passages from the book of Acts.

## Tuesday Evening Bible Study

7 p.m. on Tuesdays



The Tuesday evening Bible study are studying about the 12 disciples. Can you name all the disciples? Do you know what each one did after Jesus' death and resurrection? Come learn more about Jesus' faithful followers. Each lesson is individual, so come any Tuesday you can.

## Memorials to BSLC

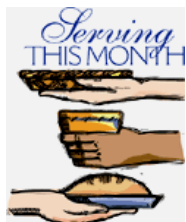
In Memory of Bob Richgruber  
Ed and Carol Herrmann

## Summer Office Hours

Beginning May 26, the office will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Thursday. If you need to stop by the church, please call first to see if anyone will be here.



## May Service Group



Rhonda Hoge is our captain for the month of May. 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. Thanks for your support of our church.

## 9,000 Miles of Nursing

Everyone is invited to the church at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 14, to hear about Kayla Schlichtmann's trip to Kenya. There were ten nursing students and two professors that traveled to Chogoria, Kenya, from the University of Jamestown. They worked in the hospital along with the nursing students in Kenya. Kayla will share how Kenya's healthcare differs from ours, the culture of the Kenyans, and what mission work they did. She also will have pictures of places they visited and sights they saw.



## LWML News

Our next meeting will be at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 14. The business meeting will follow Kayla Schlichtmann's Kenya trip presentation.

## Appreciation to Many

Thank you to Aaron and Kim Steinke for taking time to teach our seventh-grade confirmation class the past couple of years.

Thank you to Kym Gilman for her hard work of cleaning the church every week.

Thank you to our choir and youth praise band directors Ramsey and Lyndell Dahl.

Thank you to Mary Seiffert, Anne Kelley, Loretta Rasmussen and Julie Bopp for playing for worship each Sunday and at our special worship services.

Thank you to those who lead our women's Bible study on Mondays and Thursdays.

Thank you to Beth Gustafson who faithfully makes church deposits, records the donations and mails out statements.

Thank you to our many people who do so many extra jobs around the church and outside, who find greeters, who help in the kitchen, who teach Sunday School and who count our weekly offerings. What wonderful volunteers BSLC has! God bless you all.





## Baptisms

April 19 - Clarence Joseph (CJ) Zimmel, son of Clarence and Kimberly Zimmel, born Dec. 22, 2014. His sponsors were Tim and Amy Flaten and Tami Zimmel.



## New Members Corner

Please welcome Shirley Elsner to BSCL. She recently moved to Fargo from Lidgerwood to be closer to her family. (Her daughter is Beth Gustafson.) She likes the friendliness of our church. In her spare time, she enjoys doing puzzles, reading, crafting and outdoor games. Her favorite Bible verse is John 3:16 as it is the "Gospel in a nutshell." She believes that "Experience is the teacher of life." She enjoys being involved in various activities and has already joined the quilters group. We are glad to have Shirley in our midst!



## BSLC Coffee Club

Our BSCL 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 BSCL members and is for both men and women of any age. Come any Friday you can.



## Quilting will be May 14 and 28

Quilting will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursdays, May 14 and 28. This is for all ages, so feel free to stop by and help if you can.

## Gold Club Lunch

Noon, Wednesday, May 20

Calling all BSCL 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, May 20, in the fellowship hall. See you there!

## 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 BSCL, or you can drop them off at the school in the front hallway. Thank you.

## 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.



## Please Save Used Stamps

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

## Called to Kindness in Christ

Word by Pastor Chris

A New Jersey teacher may lose her job after allowing her third-graders to send get-well cards to Mumia Abu-Jamal, who is serving a life sentence for killing Philadelphia police officer Daniel Faulkner in 1981.

In February, Marilyn Zuniga said she presented her students with an assignment in which they were asked to consider the main idea of the following quote from Abu-Jamal: "So long as one just person is silenced, there is no justice."

About two months later, Zuniga said she told the students about Abu-Jamal's failing health and **they** asked about writing "get well" letters.

On April 5, Zuniga posted a tweet about her students' letters being delivered to Abu-Jamal, which resulted in a severe backlash and a public outcry for her to be fired. The school board has tabled this issue while Zuniga remains suspended with pay.

Many things come into play here. We can question the validity of this taking place in a public school with young students. We can ask if this teacher talked about the seriousness of Abu-Jamal's crime and the appropriate consequences for that crime. We can scrutinize the decision to broadcast this on social media.

Not knowing all the facts, I don't want to offer an opinion if this teacher should be fired. I also don't want to write about what Zuniga should have done; I want to write about what God calls us to do.

We cannot and do not advocate killing. That sin must be recognized. Justice must be done. But this man is in prison for what he has done. He will be in prison his entire life. If someone commits a crime, does that mean that for the rest of their life, all they should receive is condemnation, pain and suffering?

Christians are called to leave behind this world's overdeveloped sense of vengeance. Remember, God has given his authority to allow government to capture, try, convict and sentence. To add punishment by denouncing any kindness goes above what God has instituted.

We can look at Jesus' own actions on the cross when he prayed that God forgive the very people who crucified him! Is it not for this that Jesus came?

To forgive even the worst of sinners? Jesus tells us all manners of sin will be forgiven, even murder. God's son was murdered, even though he was innocent, but he took the punishment for all sin upon himself and broke its power and curse through his rising to life again.

Christ himself instructs us to visit those in prison. He tells us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. Peter tells us not to pay reviling with reviling, but to bless, in other words, speak a good word to others.

Again, we must recognize the severity of the crime and what it cost the Faulkner family. I hope they are surrounded with love and support. But holding on to additional vengeance and hatred means that your God has become rigorous justice itself. Likewise, when you look to someone's suffering to bring ultimate comfort, that person's suffering has become your god.

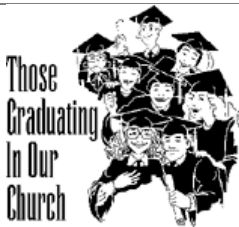
Take comfort in God! Let God be God in your life and in the life of others. He desires that repentance and forgiveness of sins be preached in His name to all nations and all people! If compassion and kindness in Christ are denied to sinners, then we have taken the Gospel and placed it in a cage. We have told God that salvation is only for those we choose. We have told God that how He dispenses justice is not enough. This is not our place! Then what is?

Peter puts it best when he writes, "But in your hearts, honor Christ the Lord as holy, **ALWAYS** being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with genuineness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, "when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame." (1 Peter 3:15).

Christ bids us to leave our hatred and vengeance at the cross. He desires we repent, and receive God's forgiveness and peace in Jesus. Filled with His forgiveness and peace, we show forth the hope we have in Christ alone.

*Pastor Chris*

## High School Seniors Graduation Plans



- Anna Aberle will graduate from Davies High School. She plans to attend NDSU to pursue a degree in Pharmacy.
- Tiffany Barth will graduate from Fargo South. She plans to attend UND and major in athletic training and pursue a career as an orthopedic physician.
- Tyler Deitemeyer will graduate from Fargo South. He plans to attend NDSU and is debating about a major in education.
- Damien Gehler will graduate from Fargo South. He plans to go to UND, Grand Forks and major in aviation.
- Daniele Haekenkamp will graduate from West Fargo. She plans to attend Concordia College, Moorhead, to major in finance and minor in Spanish
- Koltyn Klose will graduate from West Fargo. She plans to get her associate degree from MSUM, Moorhead, and then attend University of Utah for a nursing degree.
- Megan Marcks will graduate from Woodrow Wilson. She plans to study surgical technology at a college yet to be determined.
- Brandon Noffze will graduate from West Fargo. He plans to attend Minnesota State University, Moorhead and study audio engineering.
- Seth Nordstrom will graduate from West Fargo. He plans to attend NDSU and study geology and environmental science.
- Kyra Palmer will graduate from Fargo North. She plans to attend University of North Dakota and will be majoring in pre-medicine with an emphasis in athletic training
- Carter Schimke will graduate from Northern Cass. He plans to attend the University of Minnesota.
- Seth Wolf will graduate from Fargo South. He plans to attend NDSU to pursue a degree in electrical engineering.

Any high school graduates that were missed, please let the office know your plans and it will be published in the June newsletter.

## Summer Bible Camps

It's not too late to register your children for summer camps. 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](http://shretreat.org). It is located by the Peace Gardens. Lutheran Island Camp website is [www.islandcamp.org](http://www.islandcamp.org). It is located on East Battle Lake, MN.

## Grace School Upcoming Events

### Tuesday, May 5

Band/Ambassador Concert at 7 p.m.

### Wednesday, May 6

Muffins for Moms from 7:30-9:30 a.m.

### Tuesday, May 19

Spring Musical "The Big Fish" at 7 p.m. for Pre-K through third graders.

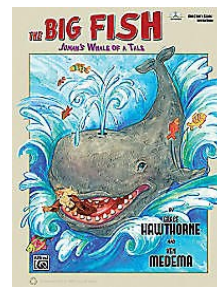
### Thursday, May 28

Kindergarten and eighth-grade graduation ceremony at 7 p.m.

## The Big Fish!

(Jonah's Whale of a Tale)

Come to Grace School at 7 p.m., Tuesday, May 19, to see the story of Jonah and the big fish that is told in a "film-noir," detective story style. Watch as we uncover the "disappearance" of Jonah and learn a lesson of how God works in our lives (even when we are sometimes stubborn too). A dress rehearsal will take place at 1:30 p.m. May 19, if you would like to see the musical during the day.



## Crossfire Schedule Youth Praise Band

Sunday, May 3  
Saturday, May 9  
Sunday, May 10



7 p.m. Practice  
6 p.m. Practice  
Play at worship at 8:15 a.m.  
(be at church by 7:30 a.m.)  
7 p.m. Dairy Queen-year  
end party.

Call Ramsey Dahl at  
866-5403 if you have  
questions or concerns.

## Celebrate Our High School Seniors

All high school  
seniors are invited  
to attend the 8:15 or  
10:45 a.m. worship  
services on Sunday,  
May 17, as our congregation  
recognizes your hard work during  
the past four years. May God be  
with you in your future endeavors.  
Congratulations!



## April Youth Events

### Upcoming Bible Study Opportunities

**Wednesday, May 6** - No Lutheran Youth Fellowship  
**Wednesday, May 13** - from 7:45 to 9 p.m. Outdoor Activity Night  
**Wednesday, May 20** - from 7:45 to 9 p.m. Destination Unknown for grades 7-12  
**Wednesday, May 27** - No Lutheran Youth Fellowship

### Upcoming Fellowship Events.

**Wednesday, May 13 – Family Outdoor Activity Night.** All youth in grades 7-12 are invited for an outdoor activity and game night from 7-9 p.m. at the church. The event will include a barbecue dinner of hot dogs and brats. Bring a dish to share and your favorite outdoor game. Please fill out a form with Pastor Chris.

**Sunday, May 17: Youth Group Paintball.** All kids in sixth through 12th grades and their family and friends are invited for a day of paintball from 1-6:30 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.



### Upcoming Servant/Fund-Raising Events

**Friday, May 29 to Saturday, May 30: Spring clean-up weekend at Shepherd's Hill.** Save the date for this weekend near the Turtle Mountains. All youth and their families are invited for a free weekend at our district camp to help with spring cleaning projects, such as picking up trash, removing dead branches and trees, and other tasks. We will be leaving at 4 p.m. on Friday and returning late Saturday evening.



# 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 (through May 22)

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

## Worship Schedule

**Sunday Worship at 8:15 and 10:45 a.m. through May 17**

**Sunday worship at 8:30 and 10 a.m. starting May 24**

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

**Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
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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:	LeAnn Herrmann	237-4820
Treasurer:	Mike Herrmann	237-4820
Secretary:	Theresa Gehler	241-9736
Properties:	Dan Berglund	371-4499
Education:	Bobbi Hestdalen	540-2218
Stewardship:	Jean Berard	532-0245
Evangelism:	Lori Pytlik	281-5275

## 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		
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.