

August 2015

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Weekly Updates

Do you get the church's weekly update via e-mail? A short blurb is e-mailed out to our members weekly to keep them informed of upcoming events. If you are not getting our blurbs, please let the office know your e-mail address. You can also get the church newsletter via e-mail.

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

Preparation and Action

By Pastor Dave

I am grateful that summer is not over yet. I am looking forward to enjoying some vacation days in August with my grown children and grandchildren. But before I go, I will have to prepare by packing a suitcase. August is traditionally time when people prepare for a variety of upcoming things. Preparations go into family trips, the closing down of the lake place, the beginning of school and the start of the fall schedule.

For certain things, we receive reminders to be ready. You do not need to look at a calendar to become aware of the start of school. You see it in the advertising. Companies are eager to help you gear up for the upcoming school year by selling you clothing, school supplies and every new technology that might help children move forward in their education.



God is also in the business of preparation. But it is different with the Lord. To begin with, the great work already has been done by Him. He sent His Son so that we may have new and everlasting life in Jesus Christ. But just because God has worked out salvation for us doesn't mean that there is nothing for us to do.

(Continued on next page).

Fall Planning for Church

September will soon be here. To help BSLC with planning for the fall, we are taking registrations for Sunday School. Registration forms can be found on page seven of this newsletter or in the lobby/narthex of our building.

We also could use more of our members to help us carry out our missions. There are various positions and opportunities for you to help us out. Prayerfully consider how God might use you this fall.

7 p.m. Wednesday Evening Worship

August already? We are all busy enjoying the last free, warm days of summer. Many times our plans end up on weekends so you may miss church. Keep Christ in your life each week by attending our

7 p.m. worship
Wednesdays, Aug. 5,
12 and 19. There
will be no worship
Wednesday, Aug. 26.



Preparation

(continued from page 1).

Hear what St. Paul writes in Ephesians 2:8-10:

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

There is nothing that we can do to contribute to our salvation. It is free because of what Jesus has done for us. For all of this, we thank and praise God. However, our new life in Christ does not stop with adoration of the Lord. God has prepared us to do good works. Good works are all those things that flow out of our faith and new life in Jesus Christ. Good works are all those things that we do and say as we love God and show Christ-like love to our neighbors.

Some people think that good works are linked to a Christian doing something extraordinary. To be sure, doing great things at times is needed and important. However, good works are also those ordinary things we do every day that God desires us to do. Being a good father, mother, or spouse is a good work that God wants you to do. Being a good student or well-behaved child, a reliable employee or a fine employer, a faithful friend and a good neighbor to those in need are all good things as well. Giving encouragement to those in need as well as praying for others is God-pleasing. Regular worship and daily prayers are deeds that God sees as good. These things all contribute to the well-being of the family, community and our faith. They flow from and reflect the new life we have in our Savior.

To be sure, no matter how hard we try, our efforts and good works will never be perfect. We will not always be the best father, mother, student, child, employer or employee. But the good news is that God continues to forgive us. This is to move us all the more to be bold in how we may be a blessing to others. In fact, God has made us what we are. He has created us in Christ Jesus to live lives filled with good works that he has prepared for us to do.

Because God has already prepared us for good works, I pray that you may now be bold in doing them for the glory of God and the benefit of others.



Pastor Dave

Praying For Others

Prayer Chain

BSLC has an e-mail prayer chain. If you have a concern or joy and would like our prayer warriors to pray for you or others, please e-mail the office and your prayer will be sent out on the e-mail chain. Prayer updates are appreciated by our prayer warriors.

Sunday Prayers posted in Bulletin

Prayer petitions also will be placed in our announcements at your request and will continue to run weekly. Please let us know when your petition should be taken off our prayer list. This gives all our church members a chance to pray for our particular needs and joys. God hears all our prayers at all times.



Looking Ahead to Our Fall Start-up Schedule

Where has our summer gone? All too soon, school will start, and the church will resume our fall activities. Mark your calendars now for the start-up dates of church activities.

- Sept. 9 Confirmation
- Sept. 9 Praise band practice
- Sept. 13 Sunday school
- Adult Bible study
- Worship time changes
back to 8:15 & 10:45 a.m.
- Sept. 16 Choir Practice

Bible Studies



Our 7 p.m. Tuesday evening Bible study will resume on Aug. 18. There will be no Bible study Aug. 4 or 11.

Our women's Bible study will resume in September with dates to be determined.

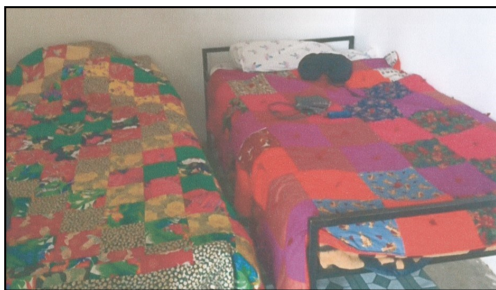
LWML Picnic Aug. 20

If you enjoy getting out with other Christian friends one night a month during the school year, Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) may be a good fit for you. Plan to attend our summer picnic at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 20, and find out how much fun we have with LWML. Not required, but you're welcome to bring a favorite picnic dish if you wish. The picnic will be in Mary Seiffert's backyard, 1707 Prairie Lane S., Fargo. If you have any questions, please call Mary at 212-3712.

Aug. 30 is our loose change Sunday. So bring in your loose change for the LWML mites. Thanks!

August Service Group

Maggie Stende is our captain for the month of August. Our group consists of the last names that begin with the letter S. She will call you asking for fellowship treats or to help out with a funeral or other events. Thanks for your support.



Quilts and "PJ's" to Ethiopia

Thanks to our quilting ladies for their sewing

and stitching many pairs of pajamas and 14 quilts and donating them to an orphanage in Ethiopia. Above is a picture of a couple of the quilts already on the beds in the orphanage. The children were so excited to receive the quilts. If you would like to help out, the quilters will meet from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Aug. 13 and 27.

Remember Your Offerings

Please remember this busy summer to honor 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 Sundays, we encourage you to mail or drop off your offering at the church office.



FirstChoice Clinic "LifeWalk"

This year's "LifeWalk" will be Saturday, Oct. 3, at the Red River Zoo, Fargo. Registration will be at 8:30 a.m., and the walk starts at 9 a.m. "LifeWalk" is a fun, inspiring community fundraiser that supports women and families facing unplanned pregnancy by providing them with life-affirming free medical services and support. To sponsor or to be a walker, call 237-5902 or register online at www.teamfirstchoice.com

Thrivent Financial Picnic and RedHawks Baseball Game Aug. 20

Please join us for a picnic and RedHawks baseball game hosted by Thrivent Financial on Thursday, Aug. 20.

- Picnic begins at 5:30 p.m. at the East entrance of the stadium.
- Game starts at 7:02 p.m., RedHawks play Lincoln Saltdogs.
- Cost is \$10 per person and includes chicken sandwich or hot dog picnic and baseball game.

Reserve your tickets by Aug. 5 by calling your local Thrivent Financial representative or the church office. Payment, with cash or check made payable to FM RedHawks (not Thrivent) will be collected at time of reservation.

Tickets will be available for pickup from your representative or at your church office on Aug. 14. Please contact Andrea Williams with questions at atandrea.williams@thrivent.com or 478-7138.

Love and Truth

by Pastor Chris

If you've been attending weddings this summer, you may have heard about love a time or two from 1 Cor. 13. You remember that passage, right? The one in which Paul writes: "Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful," (4-5). "Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things," (7).

But what does this mean? Interpreting 1 Cor. 13 through a secular lens may give the impression that love means making the dreams of another come true or that love means giving someone anything and everything they want. But verse six might provide the most important key to understanding love. It says: "(Love) does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth."

God's love, for example, does not concern itself with making all our dreams come true or giving us anything and everything we want. Instead, God concerns himself with loving us enough to help us know the truth of forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Parents are needed to help their children make wise decisions because young brains are still under construction. But even the human adult brain is filled with self-serving, sinful and fallen reasoning, emotion and purpose. It often rejoices at wrongdoing and not the truth. Sadly, our "loving" actions often do not lead those we love to Jesus. They often take the focus off of Him.

Paul goes on to write: "When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways," (11).

In other words, Paul encourages us to grow up. We might think encouraging our spouses, friends and kids to pursue their hobbies, dreams and pleasures at the expense of their faith is love. Parents make a loving vow at their child's baptism to teach their kids the faith, place in their hands the Scriptures and bring them to the services of God's house – not as a work for God, but to place the child where God has promised to work in them.

Love does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. You can't believe for someone else or create faith. But you can love. Those who love don't simply let faith matters lie, but rejoice about God's perfect love in Jesus, who comes to us through Word and Sacrament.

You see, we don't have the full picture now. But what awaits us all is a face-to-face with Jesus: "For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known," (12).

We might not know God fully, but God knows us fully. And He works in us so that we might know Him. After all, God's Word is truth and the power of salvation for those who believe. Through the Spirit-filled preached and proclaimed word in the Divine Service and Bible study, God creates and sustains our faith concerning God's salvation in Jesus Christ. That's love and truth in one glorious package.

Pastor Chris

BSLC Coffee Club

Take time on a Friday in August to meet with other BSLC members at 9 a.m. at Randy's 2130 University Drive 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 when you can.

Gold Club Potluck Noon, Wednesday, Aug. 19

Have you come to one of the church's Gold Club potluck lunches? This is for anyone age 55 or older. We will meet at the church at noon Wednesday, Aug. 20. Bring some wonderful garden fare, hot dish or other favorite dish you like to make. Bring a guest and enjoy fellowship with other BSLC members.

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.



(With the recent news regarding Planned Parenthood, we have placed this article from the Lutherans for Life

website. There is a chapter in the West Fargo/ Fargo/Moorhead area, and Gail Waagen is the president of the organization.)

This article is designed to help people understand the unique role LFL has as a life-affirming ministry. So please consider LFL's three M's:

Mission

The mission of LFL is to equip Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices for life. This makes us different than other for-life groups. We want to equip Lutherans to be positive, life-affirming voices that uphold the truth of the God-given value of human life both in local congregations and in society. We strive to affirm that each human life is created and gifted by God, that each human life is someone for whom Jesus Christ died and that each human life is someone the Holy Spirit desires to call into an eternal relationship with Him.

Therefore, our mission is not to change laws although we hope that our mission will lead to laws being changed. Our mission is not to elect pro-life candidates to office, although we hope that our mission will lead Lutherans to vote for pro-life candidates. Our mission is not to start pregnancy centers although we hope our mission will lead Lutherans to support and volunteer at such centers.

Our mission is to equip Lutherans so that they understand that the life issues of our time are much more than controversial political issues. They are grave spiritual issues, for they assault the Creator of Life and insult the Lord of Life. In short, our mission is to change hearts. Those with changed hearts will change society. Only God, working through the power of His Gospel, can change hearts. That is why the Gospel motivates all that we do.

Message

The message of Lutherans For Life is the heart-changing truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our primary message is not so much "Here's what we should do." Rather it is "Here is what God has done that gives value and dignity to all human life." This

is what makes our message unique. This is what makes our message powerful and effective. God's Word does things! It is a "living" Word. It is an "active" Word and "sharper than any doubled-edged sword" (Heb. 4:12). It never returns without accomplishing God's purpose.

Gospel Preparation

Preparatory for the Gospel, of course, is the truth of God's Word of Law. In an age of relative truth, someone needs to take a stand and say that there is a truth. In an age of moral pluralism, someone needs to stand up and say that some things are morally wrong. In an age where abortion is called a "right" and a "choice," where assisted suicide and euthanasia are called "compassion," where sex outside of marriage is called "natural" and "safe," someone needs to be bold and call them wrong.

The Law, however, must not be used to drive people to despair about the wrong choices and bad decisions people make in their lives, but to lead them to Christ and what God has done in Him. The sorrowful pregnant teen needs to hear that she is loved by God as that love is shared and shown through the body of Christ. She needs the support of God's people to help her in any way they are able. Women and men who are filled with sorrow and regret over an abortion decision need to hear about the forgiveness, hope and healing that are found in Jesus. The depth of the sorrow over this sin is so deep that only the Gospel of Jesus can lift them up out of the darkness. Families who realize that they have made wrong decisions about end of life issues need to hear that they live under grace, and that God will never leave them or forsake them.

Gospel Motivation

The Gospel is not just something that happens to us. It is something that lives within us. The Gospel, not the "shoulds" and the "should nots" of the Law, is to be our motivation for making good decisions. Christian teenagers, for example, need to be reminded of whose they are. They have better motivation for making good decisions than the fear of horrible diseases happening to their bodies. They have a Savior who loves them and lives in their bodies as His temple.

(Continued on next page.)

The Mission...

(Continued from page 5.)

Gospel Transformation

The message of the Gospel transforms us to live and think differently in the face of problems and afflictions in our lives. Things are never hopeless, and we do not have to turn to death as the solution to the problems of life. The Gospel assures us that nothing can ever separate us from God's love and assures us that just as God was at work in the suffering of His Son on the cross, so He is at work in the suffering of His people bringing good from it. The Gospel assures us that there is a glory waiting for us that cannot compare at all with the sufferings of this present time.

Gospel Proclamation

The life issues provide tremendous opportunity to proclaim this wonderful message. The primary reason Lutherans For Life wants to raise awareness of the life issues among pastors and congregations is so that more will realize that we have the message that so many people need to hear applied to their sin and their lives. We have the greatest message in the world, and we run the risk of causing offense to God's people when we fail to apply it to their struggles. Of course, even the greatest message in the world can be presented in not so great a way.

Manner

Lutherans For Life desires to pattern its manner after Paul and "speak the truth in love." Admittedly that is not always easy. Pro-lifers can become frustrated

when our Biblical, reasonable, logical and loving message is twisted and turned until we are compared to the Taliban. Pro-lifers can become angry at the deafening silence of so many in the church when 3,200 of God's children are killed every day through abortion and in terribly cruel ways. This is a righteous anger. We should be angry! But we should not sin in our anger. Our anger should not lead us to abrasiveness, violence or arrogant insult. We should not return evil with evil. To do so only raises barriers and defenses that are often impenetrable.

This does not mean we cower in the face of opposition or give up in the face of persecution. We are to be courageous in our conviction to our mission and bold in the proclamation of our message. The truth we proclaim is not to be proclaimed timidly or ashamedly, but it is to be proclaimed in love. Love confronts people with their sins, but love does not condemn people because of their sins. Paul reminds us of the way of love.

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth" (1 Cor. 13:4-6).

We are a for life group because God, in His Word, is for life. Please visit the website for more information about Lutherans for Life or contact Gail Waagen at 281-3977.

August Youth Events

Upcoming Bible Study Opportunities

Wednesday, Aug. 5 - from 7:45 to 9 p.m. Youth Group for grades 7-12 at Beautiful Savior
Wednesday, Aug. 12 - from 7:45 to 9 p.m. Youth Group for grades 7-12 at Beautiful Savior
Wednesday, Aug. 19 - No Youth Group
Wednesday, Aug. 26 - No Youth Group

Upcoming Fellowship Events

Tuesday, Aug. 11: Senior High Lakes Day: Soak up some rays with fellow senior high students as we explore God's word in Bible study before hitting the lake. Jet-skiing, wake-boarding swimming and sunning will be part of the day. We will meet at Beautiful Savior Lutheran at 10:30 a.m. and carpool to the lakes. Cost is \$15 for transportation. Please also bring money for a fast food lunch and dinner at Zorbaz.

Sunday, August 30: Paintball - All kids in sixth through 12th grades and their family and friends are invited for a day of paintball from 12:30-6:30 p.m. at Valley Paintball. We will meet at BSLC at noon. 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.



Grace Lutheran School

Grace has open enrollment; tell your friends and family about the school. They offer small classes, foreign languages, servant events, music/athletic programs and much more. Call 232-7747 for more details. Their website is www.gracelutheralschool.org.

Grace school has openings for after-school daycare workers from 3-6:15 p.m. on school days. Substitute teachers also are needed and must hold a current ND teacher's license.

Sunday School Teachers and Helpers Needed

Sunday school wouldn't be a success without good volunteers to teach and help with the classes. Please prayerfully discern if you are being called to help our Sunday school program this year, and let the office know.



Sunday School Registration



It's time to register your child(ren) for class. This helps us in setting up the classrooms and ordering supplies. Below is the registration form to be filled out and returned to the church office as soon as possible. Thank you!

Pre-K-6th Grade Christian Education Registration Form

Please fill out this form and return it to the church office.
You may also email your information to the church at office@bslcfargo.org.

Name of parent(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____ E-mail: _____

<u>Names of Children</u>	<u>Birthdate</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Grade (2015-2016)</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

I am interested in helping in the following areas:

- | | | | |
|--|---|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help with Christmas Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Administration | <input type="checkbox"/> Opening | <input type="checkbox"/> Music |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher/Team Teacher/Sub. | <input type="checkbox"/> Classroom Helper | <input type="checkbox"/> Crafts | |

Sunday School begins Sept. 13

Sunday School Classes available for children ages 3 thru Grade 12

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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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.

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Organization
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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 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
Sunday School:	Bobbi Hestdalen	540-2218
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.