

Application for GLS Tuition Assistance and Covenant Form

For members of Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Fargo, North Dakota

Adopted at 2010 December Voters' Meeting

Forward

Jesus Christ commanded us in the Gospel of Matthew (28:19-20): "Go and make disciples of all nations by baptizing them . . . and teaching them to observe everything I have commanded." Throughout the Bible, we find exhortations to bring up our children in the knowledge and way of the Lord. Therefore, instructing and nurturing children in the Christian faith is a core mission of Beautiful Savior. Grace Lutheran School is an integral part of this. Through our participation in the Red River Lutheran School Association and through our tuition assistance, we seek to carry out a portion of our mission in Christian education.

Members of Beautiful Savior are able to receive tuition assistance for Grace Lutheran School. As our congregation pledges to pay a portion of your tuition to help in the Christian development of your child(ren), we are asking you to also pledge to continue to nurture your faith as well as that of your child(ren) at Beautiful Savior and to be involved in the support and ministry of our congregation.

Deadlines for Application

There are two deadlines when it comes to requesting tuition assistance. To receive tuition assistance for the fall or beginning of the school year, this form needs to be turned into the church office by April 15. To request tuition assistance beginning in February, this form needs to be turned into the church office by October 15.

Request for Assistance and Covenant Pledge

I/We request assistance for my/our child(ren) who are attending Grace School. I/We are delighted to have my/our child(ren) be able to be nurtured in the faith at Grace School. I/We pledge to nurture my/our faith and be an example to my/our child(ren). With this in mind, I/we covenant to:

- Attend worship services regularly with my/our child(ren) (at least twice a month)
- Have my/our child(ren) participate regularly in Sunday School or midweek education program (at least twice a month)
- Contribute my/our time, talents and treasures to support the ministry of Beautiful Savior
- Seek to be a good witness of Jesus Christ through words and actions. This also involves being a good ambassador of Beautiful Savior and of Grace Lutheran School to other members of my/our congregation and community.

I/We understand that if we are neglectful for ourselves or our child(ren) in seeking to nurture our own faith and faith life within the ministry of Beautiful Savior, we will receive a call or visit from a pastor or an elder. I/We also understand that if we are not faithful in living up to this covenant, this may lead to a reduction or cancellation of our tuition assistance. (See back of page for further explanations)

Signed _____ Date _____ For tuition assistance beginning on _____

Child	Request Full Subsidy	Request Half Subsidy	No Subsidy

Regarding Covenanting

Throughout the Old and New Testament we observe God's people covenanting (making pledges or vows) in a variety of contexts. Beautiful Savior has done this throughout its history as well. It is probably most obvious each year as we encourage our members to make pledges regarding their financial offerings. However, covenanting happens as members volunteer to teach Sunday School, participate in choir or praise band, serve on various boards or committees, or involve themselves in a variety of other ways at Beautiful Savior. As a parent, probably the greatest vow (covenant) you made to God was when you brought your child(ren) to the waters of baptism. It was there that you promised to bring them up in the knowledge and way of the Lord.

Attending Worship Services Regularly

Besides being commanded by God (Third Commandment), worship with other Christians is an essential part of the Christian's life. It is a time when we are able to gather to receive God's blessings through His Word and Sacraments as well as the blessings we receive through our fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ. In worship we also offer the Lord our praises, thanks, prayers and offerings. Worshipping together with our earthly families is one way we can seek to demonstrate to our children that we fear, love and trust God above all things (First Commandment).

Participating in Sunday School and/or Midweek Education Program

Christian education is important for you. If it was not, you would not be sending your child(ren) to Grace School. By sending your child(ren) to Sunday School, Midweek Education program or to both of them, you are affirming the value of Christian education.

Contributing Time, Talents and Treasures

The ministry of Beautiful Savior is supported through the generous giving of our members with their time, abilities and financial donations. As with all our members, we pray that the parents of Grace School children to be actively involved in our ministry. There are many ways in which this could be done (examples: Small group involvement, Ushers, Bible Study, Prayer Chain, Nursery helper, Working with Sunday School/Bible Blast, Church boards or committees, Music/choir/band)

Each year during our stewardship campaign, we invite members to financially pledge to the ministry of Beautiful Savior. As parents who acknowledge and see the value of Christian ministry first hand at Beautiful Savior and Grace Lutheran School, we pray that you would make a financial pledge.

Ambassadors for Beautiful Savior and Grace School

It is important for you to realize that your words and actions do influence how other people see the ministry of Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church and Grace Lutheran School. For example, being friendly, kind and outgoing towards those who do not send their children to Grace can make a positive impression on others within our congregation and our community.

Request for Full, Half or no Subsidy Assistance

We offer families an option to request different amounts of assistance from our tuition subsidy pool. Also, if a family has more than one child attending, they may request full subsidy assistance for one and a reduced rate for another one. If you have questions about this, please see a pastor or a church council member.

Concluding Remarks

The expectations outlined in this covenant for Grace School families is the hope we have for all our families. We are not asking Grace parents to do more. But since you receive financial assistance, we are asking you to serve as a positive witness and example for other members by signing this covenant. Above all, we pray that your life will affirm this statement:

What Grace Lutheran School teaches and imparts to our children
we will seek as a family to live out in our lives.