

April 2023

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

Scariest Word in Church is no Match for Jesus New Sunday Study Helps You to Share Who You are in Christ

By Pastor Chris

Certain words make us uncomfortable. I'm not talking about vulgarities, the dirty words with which society has become way *too* comfortable. No, certain words just rub people the wrong way; they assault our sensibilities. I'm not sure which words land on your list, but phlegm, moist, tofu, tender and pantyhose took some of the top spots for most hated in the English language.

In church, we hear words that make us uncomfortable, too. These might include sin, death and hell. But if you really want to make someone head for the door or run for cover, say the word "evangelism."

Maybe you have seen evangelism done poorly. Maybe you have seen evangelism go poorly. Maybe the thought of cold calls and door-to-door visits might make you weak in the knees. And the subject matter? It's so important! We don't want to get this wrong! There is a lot at stake.

But God is an excellent communicator. He wants each person to know about his faithfulness, love and mercy despite all our broken sinfulness and rebellion.

(Continued on Page 2.)

Palm Sunday, April 2

Palm Sunday Party 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, 7 p.m. April 6 "Water and Blood" (Mark 14:12-26)

Good Friday, 7 p.m. April 7 "Wooden Cross" (Passion of St. John)

Easter Sunday, 8:15, 9:30 and 10:45 a.m. April 9

"Milk and Honey" (Mark 16:1-8)



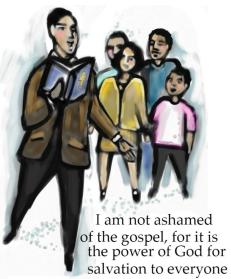
Easter Breakfast 8:45 -10:30 a.m.
Rolls, muffins, fruit, scrambled eggs, sausage links, juice and coffee will be available.
No Sunday school or adult Bible study

Scariest Word in Church is no Match for Jesus (Continued from Page 1.) New Sunday Study Helps You to Share Who You are in Christ

If you feel unprepared to talk with others, take heart. Help is on the way. God's Word kills and makes alive. It chastens and it heals. But most importantly, the Gospel is meant to be shared with others. Paul proudly proclaims: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes," (Romans 1:16a).

Beginning April 16, Beautiful Savior will begin a study at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays to help you witness to friends, coworkers and any other non -churched people you may know. How is this done? It means listening to those who are unsure about Christianity. It means asking questions that aren't accusatory. It means sharing the Good News about Jesus. Notice how there's no bashing, no judgment, and no forced imposition of beliefs. Instead, there's understanding, communication, and honesty between friends.

Join us on Sunday mornings for "Everyone His Witness" to get over your fear of the word "evangelism" and instead focus on good news and great joy in Jesus Christ.



Romans 1:16, ESV who believes ...





Upcoming Bible Studies

9:30 a.m. Sunday morning Bible study: "Everyone His Witness" - Beginning April 16, Beautiful Savior will begin a study to help you to get over your fear of the word "evangelism" and instead focus on good news and great joy in Jesus Christ. We will help you witness to friends, coworkers and any other non-churched people you may know. How is this done? It means listening to those who are unsure about Christianity. It means asking questions that aren't accusatory. It means sharing the Good News about Jesus. Notice how there's no bashing, no judgment, and no forced imposition of beliefs. Instead, there's understanding, communication and honesty between friends.

In December of 2021, Beautiful Savior offered members a chance to complete a survey to identify strengths and growth areas in the congregation. Although no areas were identified that impact the church negatively, members shared that improvements could be made in both outreach to the community and inreach to BSLC members.

6:30 p.m. Sunday night Family Bible Study: "Chosen" - See the Bible come to life through "The Chosen" video series. Bring family and friends for a night of fellowship and faith. A potluck supper begins at 6 p.m. followed by the study. There will be no study on Easter or Confirmation Sunday, April 23.

7 p.m. Tuesday night Bible study: "Celebrating the Saints" - How much do you know about figures from Christian history like Emperor Constantine, Polycarp or Anselm? What about lesser-known people from the Bible such as Silas, Matthias (not Matthew) or Simon the Zealot? Throughout history, God has delivered His people by demonstrating His goodness, mercy and grace. In the forgiveness of sins in Christ alone, God's people are rightly called saints. Intertwined with the Lord's story are those who are His. Join us to see God working remarkably in the lives of His people.

9 a.m. Thursday Women's Bible study: "Praying the Psalms" - "Praying the Psalms" will help you to learn how to openly express the full range of emotions - joy, anger, distress, hope and trust - to God.

7 p.m. Monday April 10: Men's Bible study - Enjoy fellowship with other men from our church and learn what the Bible says about the vocation God has given us.

7 p.m. Thursday, April 20: Married Couple Bible study - We will be taking a look at what God's Word has to say about marriage and why it is still so relevant today!



Easter Breakfast April 9

Bring your appetites to church this Easter! A delicious breakfast of rolls, muffins, fruit, scrambled eggs, sausage links, juice and coffee will be served on Easter Sunday from



8:45 -10:30 a.m. Thanks to the youth who will be serving our Easter breakfast this year. Stop in the fellowship hall to enjoy food and conversation on this iovous day.

Easter Flowers On Altar

A sign-up sheet is available in the narthex to order Easter flowers in memory or in honor of loved ones. Flowers and the prices are listed on the sign-up sheets. Quantities are limited, so get your orders in early. Please make checks payable to the LWML.



Church officers re-elected were Claudia Schroeder, stewardship; Randy Johnson, RRLSA board; Mike Sellden, elder and Beth Gustafson, financial secretary. We are in need of an elder, chair and vice chair and evangelism, as these positions have termed out.

We thank Chris Speelmon, Tim Deitemever, Denise Doeling, Mike Schlichtmann for their service and all they have done in the past years for Beautiful Savior.

Please keep our church officers in your prayers. Installation of new officers will be held in May.

ND District Pastor's Conference to be Held at BSLC May 1-3

The ND District spring pastor's conference will be held at Beautiful Savior May 1-3. There will be an opening worship service at 7 p.m. on Monday, May 1, followed by a time of fellowship. Everyone is invited to attend.

Beautiful Savior Website has QR Code

Beautiful Savior now has a QR code that makes accessing the website easier. Simply scan the QR code with the scanner on your phone, and it will take you directly to our website.



Palm Sunday Party April 2

When Jesus entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, people celebrated the coming of the Messiah. Beautiful Savior will host its own celebration for kids during Sunday school from 9:30-10:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 2, in the fellowship hall. This celebration will include snacks, crafts and the story about Palm Sunday.



Confirmation Sunday April 23

Nine youth from our congregation will be confirmed at 10:45 a.m. Sunday, April 23. Please pray for these individuals as they step forward in their journey of Christian faith. Our confirmands are:

Isaac Blotsky Madilynn Lehfeldt McKenna Speelmon Chase Speelmon **Jack Ternes** Kilee Waldvogel

Eve Hashbarger Gracelynn Persoon **Emerson Vetter**

High School Seniors Pictures and Graduation Plans Needed

Do you have a youth who will graduate from high school in May or June? BSLC would like to know their future plans. Please leave an update and a picture in the church office or e-mail the church by April 21. A display of our high school seniors will be on the bulletin board in the narthex along with a brief description of future plans. There also will be a short article on our seniors in our May newsletter. Our congregation will honor the seniors during a Sunday worship service in May.

| BSLC Treasurer's Report |
|--------------------------------|
| General Operating Fund |

| Oper. Fund | Feb. | <u>YTD</u> |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Contributions | 42,561 | 86,430 |
| Expense | <u>31,750</u> | <u>68,795</u> |
| Surplus/(Shortfall) | 10,811 | 17,635 |



Clubs and Service Groups



Elders - Our elders greet members and visitors, help the pastors with any needs and see that all goes well at worship service. If you have any concerns for our church, please talk to head elder Adam Tykwinski or any of the other elders.

Quilting and Fellowship - Join us from 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Thursday, April 13 and 27. Come for awhile, or stay the whole time. Call Donna Ceroll at 232-2464 with questions.

Gold Club - Gather together and enjoy some potluck food, faith and fellowship. Our next get-together will be at noon on Wednesday, April 19. Gold Club is for anyone!

Beautiful Garden - The seventh annual Beautiful Garden in Beautiful Savior's backyard will be planting a variety of veggies (Lord-willing) sometime soon! We really are looking for more gardeners. We meet on Saturdays at 9 a.m. and Wednesdays at 5 p.m. Throughout summer, there is always plenty of work to do. All ages are invited to help with gardening activities and enjoy some fellowship. If you would like to be added to the communication list, please email Tim at tim.deitemeyer@hotmail.com.

BSLC Coffee Club - BSLC members, men and women of any age, are invited to gather at 9 a.m. on Friday mornings at Randy's, 2130 University Dr. S., Fargo.

LWML - will have their monthly meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 20, in the fellowship hall. All are welcome!

LWML Loose Change Sunday - will be April 30. Bring your loose change, dollars or checks to drop in the mite buckets.

LWML Eastern Zone Spring Event: "Bloom and Grow Where God Puts You" - will be held at 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 15 at Beautiful Savior. Kelly from Hope Blooms will be our speaker. Pastor Allen Kramp, St. John, Hillsboro and Trinity, Hope, will present the Bible study. A lunch will be served after the Bible study.

Ingathering items for Hope Blooms are: (please place in tote in narthex)

- Pint and half-pint mason jars or similar food jars (olive jars, jelly etc.) - NO VASES
- Twine or jute
- Cleansing Clorox wipes
- Paper towels
- Garbage bags (40-50 gal.)
- Hand soap
- Dishwasher pods
- Cleaning or janitorial supplies (see items listed on their website HopeBlooms.org)
- Or order from their Amazon wish list on the Hope Blooms website and have it sent to them.

LWML National Convention: Join fellow LWML women at the 2023 national convention June 22-25 in Milwaukee, WI. Celebrate the "Lord of the Nations," (Psalm 33:12-13). Register at www.lwml.org.

Memory Verse Challenge

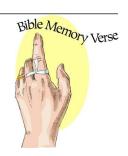
April 2: Ephesians 2:4–5 - God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.

April 9: Romans 5:1 - Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

April 16: Romans 8:1 - There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

April 23: Ephesians 2:13–14 - Now, in Christ Jesus, you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility.

April 30: Mark 12:29–31 - Jesus answered, "The most important [commandment] is: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."



Jesus Brings Light to the Darkness

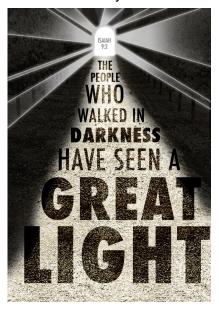
By Pastor Brian

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone." Isaiah 9:2

Have you noticed that many movies in the last decade are dark, dystopian films? In the past, movies had happy endings. But now, it seems the setting, characters and even the conclusion are dark. These movies resonate with large audiences because many people feel unstable in our cultural moment. Corrupt politicians, the potential of war and the isolation our technology brings have darkened our hope for a better future.

This is not a new feeling. Two thousand seven hundred years ago, in the days of Isaiah the prophet, Israel had lost all hope. The ruthless Assyrian Empire swallowed up the Northern Israelites. And the big, bad Babylonians were crouching, ready to pounce on what remained of God's people. Eventually, these two enemies decimated the nation of Israel.

Since the beginning of their history, God promised to send them a Messiah-King who would set them free from their oppressors. But after hundreds of years of suffering, they abandoned their dream of freedom. In their distress, they began to believe they lived in a dark story with no happy ending. But Isaiah the prophet continued to preach a message of hope. He said those living in darkness would see a great light.



When Jesus arrived hundreds of years after this prophecy, He declared He was the light Isaiah predicted. Yet, instead of just conquering their earthly enemies, Jesus had a bigger goal. He came to conquer sin and death and rule their hearts with His peace. And so, hanging on a cross, He absorbed the darkness of the world into Himself until it killed Him, and then He rose again as the light of life.

Now, all who believe in His name, enjoy God's forgiveness, the promise of the resurrection and the hope of the world to come.

Don't let the daily news or Hollywood's latest film distort your faith in the promises of God. The glory of God has brightened your dark heart. And soon, Jesus will bring our story to a happy ending.

"Main Street Living North" TV Program News

"He is risen! He is risen indeed!" These are the most important words in all the world! "For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his" (Romans 6:5). This is the message at the center of the Main Street Living Media Ministry.

To add your financial support, checks may be sent to Main Street Living North, 821 Fifth Ave. S., Fargo, ND 58103, or donate by credit card or your PayPal account on the website. Thank you, and God's blessing in Christ!

April pastors and sermons are as follows:

April 2: Rev. Kent Borglum, St. John's Lutheran Church, Montevideo, MN, presents the message: "The Only True King" based on Zechariah 9:9-10. *This Is the Life*: "Holy Land Tour part two" - A video tour of locations in Jesus' earthly ministry, led by Pastor Nabil Nour who grew up in Israel.

April 9: Rev. Nabil Nour, Trinity Lutheran Church, Hartford, SD, and fourth vice president of the LCMS, presents the message: "Swallowed Up" based on Isaiah 25:6-9. *This Is the Life*: "Three Days."

April 16: Rev. Tom Eckstein, Concordia Lutheran Church, Jamestown, and Trinity Lutheran Church, Adrian, presents the message: "The Resurrection and Scripture" based on Luke 24:36-49. *This Is the Life*: "Gates of Glory."

April 23: Vicar Brandon Johnson, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Moorhead, presents the message: "Peter's Restoration is Our Restoration" based on Acts 2:36-39. *This Is the Life*: "Betrayed."

April 30: Rev. Thomas Clark, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Hankinson, and St. John Lutheran Church, Belford Township, presents a message: "Your Shepherd Calls You by Name" based on John 10:1-10 and I Peter 2:19-25. *This Is the Life*: "Aftermath."

Grace Lutheran School News

We cannot contain our excitement! The Growing Together in Grace capital improvement campaign is moving forward! Four association churches said yes to move forward with renovations. As of this writing, we are awaiting the vote from Our Redeemer. We will provide each church with information on contributing to the campaign very soon. Thank you so very much for stepping out in faith with us. We know that God is working through our school, and we cannot wait to see what He has in store!

Let us warm your hearts and bellies with Pasta With a Purpose Spaghetti Dinner from noon-7 p.m. on Saturday, April 29. The big news this year is in celebration of Grace Lutheran School's 75th anniversary, alumni tickets are half price. Tickets will be available at the door, or you can pre-purchase from any student, teacher, board of education member or from the office. Tickets are \$12 for age 12 and up, \$6 for age 4-11, and just \$6 for all alumni. Carryout is available day of, no registration required. Sauce can be pre-ordered until April 22 on our website, www.gracelutheranschoolfargo.com. We look forward to seeing you as we celebrate our alumni!

GLS Calendar:

- April 6-10 No School
- April 29 Pasta with a Purpose Spaghetti Dinner

Ukrainian Orphanage/Orphan Grain Train Update

The Beautiful Savior LWML recently voted to donate \$300 to the Ukrainian Orphanage Project. Bonnie Kittleson, Immanuel, Fargo, purchased items to pack in suitcases. She also asked for donations for filler items to fill empty spaces in the suitcases. Kirk Rosin and his brother Brian, are taking these suitcases to Ukraine.

Part of an email update from Kirk: On Tuesday we were dropped off at the airport in Chicago. We each had a carry-on bag, a backpack and two suitcases that were 50 pounds each. They were actually a little bit more than 50 pounds, but the clerk at the check-in counter just let them go, praise the Lord. We left Chicago at approximately 10:30 at night. We got into Hamburg, Germany, at approximately 11:30 a.m. We had a two hour layover there, and in Germany, it went much smoother than in Paris the year before. We got on our connecting flight and arrived in Poland at 4 p.m.

We then set out to figure out how we were going to get to Zhytomyr. At the bus stop, I found a couple of young girls who spoke some English and asked them about a bus to Kiev or Ukraine. Fortunately they helped me, and we went to the bus stop and waited. About 7 p.m. a bus showed up there. I found a lady who I thought maybe spoke English. She said the bus was going to Kiev. I asked her if she could get us a couple of tickets on the bus also. We had to pay cash only in Polish money or Euros. Brian had Polish cash. The cost of the bus tickets for our 15 hour bus ride from Warsaw to Kiev was \$36 for each of us. We got on the bus, and they did not charge us extra for the suitcases which they are supposed to.

We did not have any Ukrainian money, so we couldn't get food or water. A farm girl did buy us water at one stop. We rode through the night on the bus. The roads were rough, and it was slow going. We arrived in Kiev, after a fifteen hour bus ride. Alla was there to meet us. We were hungry as we had not eaten anything. Alla said we would go and eat, but when we got to the food center, it was locked. She reported there was an air raid so all the businesses were locked up, so there was nowhere for us to eat. We drove for a awhile and then she said the air raid warning was off. We stopped at a gas station and got something to eat.

We arrived in Zhytomyr on Thursday. We found an apartment to rent. It's a one-bedroom, with a bath, a couch and comfortable. We slept Thursday afternoon, then later we went out and bought some groceries.

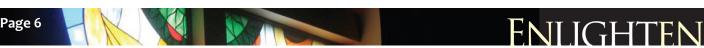
Later, towards evening, we went over to the container that ND OGT shipped over, and opened up the container. It looked as a though it had made it through customs, and everything was there! We praise the Lord for that.

On Saturday she took us to tour the city. We saw a number of things, including the school that was bombed. The school was hit the day after they had returned from Chernivtsi, when they come back from the refugee camp.

Today is Sunday, and we are going to do some grocery shopping. It is supposed to be in the 60s the next couple of days and then highs of 40s the rest of he week. They told us that on Tuesday the heat will be turned off for the year. We remember those times in Mexico at 40 degrees and how cold it was! We will see what happens here.

We will go to Alla's church this afternoon. They have asked me to say a few words about why we are here at Zhytomyr. Thank you for all your prayers. We definitely need them and appreciate them so much.

God bless, Kirk





Upcoming Sunday School Events

- The PreK through third-graders will be singing at both worship services on Sunday, April 2. Please have your student at the church by 8 a.m. for a short practice. They are welcome to sing at one or both services.
- The Palm Sunday Party will be held during Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 2.
- There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday, April 9.

Save the Date for "How to Shine God's Light" VBS, June 4-8, 2023

We are going to have a STELLAR time! (hint hint) We are looking for volunteers to help out with the following areas at VBS:



Crew Leaders - move your group of children from station to station (no teaching involved - just make sure you have everyone, assist in the stations and make sure children are behaving)

Station Leaders - are in charge of a designated activity each night. Stations include: crafts, outside games, KidVid and music. Scripts and materials are prepped and ready for you - all you have to do is follow the directions!

Registration - sign kiddos up each night and point them in the right direction.

Decoration Crew - prior to VBS you would need to help make decorations and set materials. Can be done either at home or at the church. Materials will be provided.

Donations - Keep your eyes open for donations that will be needed - your help makes VBS a success. Registration forms coming soon.

CrossTraining for BSLC Children

CrossTraining is for children in first through fifth grade. CrossTraining will meet from 1-2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 16. CrossTraining will involve food (both spiritual and physical), fun and fellowship. Contact Pastor Brian with questions.

Crosspaining

Crossfire Youth Praise Band

Crossfire will lead the 8:15 a.m. worship service on Sunday, April 2. They will practice at the church at 6 p.m. Saturday, April 1, and from 7-8 p.m. on Sunday, April 16, 23 and 30. If you have questions, call Ramsey at 866-5403.

LCEF North Dakota District College Scholarship

The Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) North Dakota District College Scholarship is offering a \$1,000 scholarship to at least one applicant. Applicant must be a graduating high school senior with a minimum 3.0 GPA or current full-time post-secondary student at an accredited institution with at least one year of courses remaining and a minimum 2.5 GPA.

Applicant must also be a member of a congregation belonging to the LCMS located in the North Dakota District. Applications close on April 15. Winners will be announced on May 10.

Apply at Icef.org/north-Dakota-scholarship. If you have questions, contact Tami Ulland, LCEF District Vice President at 701-360-1469 or tami.ulland@lcef.org.

April Youth Events

UPCOMING BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES: Join us for fun and fellowship!

Wednesday, April 12 - from 7:30-9 p.m. - LYF for grades 6-12. Wednesday, April 19 - from 7:30-9 p.m. - LYF for grades 6-12 Wednesday, April 26 - from 7:30-9 p.m. - LYF for grades 6-12.



BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

2601 23rd Ave. S., Fargo, ND 58103

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Contact Us:

PHONE: (701) 293-1047 EMAIL: office@bslcfargo.org

WEB: www.beautifulsaviorfargo.com

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/BeautifulSaviorLutheranFargo

Office Hours:

9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday Pastor Chris and Pastor Brian are also available by appointment.

Worship Schedule:

Sunday at 8:15 & 10:45 a.m. in-person & via YouTube Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Sunday

Holy Communion is celebrated on the first, third and fifth Sundays of each month. Pastors are also available by appointment Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Worship Services available at:

www.beautifulsaviorfargo.com www.youtube.com www.facebook.com/BeautifulSaviorLutheranFargo Sermon podcasts on our website & iTunes app

Pastor

Chris Waldvogel 701-293-1047 701-893-6995

Associate Pastor Brian Shane 701-293-1047 314-532-0012

Administrative Assistant

Kim Scheer 701-293-1047

ENLIGHTEN is a monthly publication of Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church.



Council Members

Chairman: Denise Doeling
Vice-Chair: Mike Schlichtmann
Treasurer: Craig Hashbarger
Secretary: Deb Schimek
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Education: Stacy Knudson
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L-N Mike Sellden
O-R Adam Tykwinski
S Don Schroeder
T-Z Chris Speelmon

Elders are assigned families based on last name

Other Volunteers

LWML President:Mary SeiffertChoir Director:Ramsey DahlRRLSA Board Representatives:Randy Johnson

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