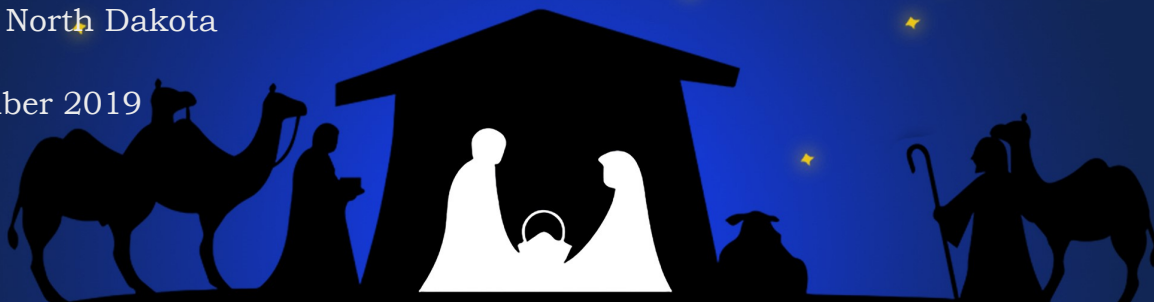


# ENLIGHTEN

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church  
Fargo, North Dakota

December 2019



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## Upcoming December Events

### Midweek Advent Services

7 p.m. on Wednesdays,

**Dec. 4:** "Come, Lord Jesus" to Him who has come to defeat the devil

**Dec. 11:** "Come, Lord Jesus" to Him who comes to lead us in daily life

**Dec. 18:** "Come, Lord Jesus" to Him who will come again to bring final victory

### Advent Soup and Suppers

6 p.m. Wednesdays, Dec. 4 and 11

Bring soup, sandwiches and desserts if you are able.

6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18

Chili Cook-off

### Advent Service Groups:

**Dec. 4** BR-D - Janet Koppinger

**Dec. 11** E-G - Diane Lee

**Dec. 18** H-K - Jodi Haekenkamp

### Caroling at Bethany on 42nd

3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 1

### Munchies for Missions

Sunday, Dec. 8

### Poinsettias for the Altar

Cost \$15; Deadline: Dec. 8

### Voters' Meeting

9:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 8

### Children's Christmas Party

6-7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13

Kindergarten - fifth grade

### Sunday School

#### Christmas Programs

8:15 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 15

Pre-K - second grade

10:45 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 15

"Away in the Mango"

Third - sixth grade

### Crossfire Christmas Party

7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15

### LYF Christmas Party

5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15 9-12 grade

7:45 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18 6-8 grade

### Gold Club Potluck

Noon Wednesday, Dec. 18

Bring white elephant gift.

### LWML Christmas Party

6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19

Bring white elephant gift.

### Christmas Eve Worship

"Come, Lord Jesus" to Him who has come to create faith

3:30 and 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 24

Candlelight Worship

### Christmas Day Worship

"Come, Lord Jesus" to Him who brings the enlightening Word

10 a.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 25

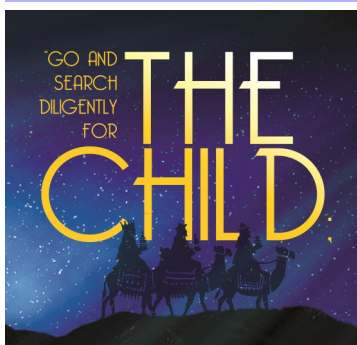
Lord's Supper celebrated

### New Year's Eve Worship

Ring in the new year with thankfulness and praise

6 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 31



# God's Word Adds Abiding Life and Light to All Seasons

(By Pastor Chris)

Growing up, I could predict what would happen every Christmas. I couldn't wait. For all of it.

On Christmas Eve, we went to my maternal grandparents at 4 p.m. for a banquet of hors d'oeuvres followed by opening presents. We would make it over to my dad's folks by 6 p.m. for dinner, followed, of course, by opening presents.

That only set the stage for church. Mom belonged in the choir, which always sang for Christmas Eve service at 10:30 p.m. She had to be there at 9:30, so dad would drop her off, then drive us around town for 40 minutes to look at Christmas lights.

On Christmas Day, we went downstairs and played the same records every year. As we opened stockings and presents, the Christy Minstrels sang: "The King of King is born in Bethlehem. Alleluia!" We wrapped up around 11 a.m. so that we could clean and prepare for the whole family coming over at 4 p.m. On the menu: Roasted turkey, stuffing with raisins, mashed potatoes, yams with marshmallows, jellied cranberries (from a can) and pumpkin pie.

These things happened each and every year without fail. What a gift! Yes, eventually, they gave way to new traditions, but I continue to treasure what we shared as a family, especially our time together in God's Word.

The joy of Christmas came alive as we attended the Boar's Head Festival every year in early December. (Mom spent considerable time singing for that at church, too.) The Boar's Head became part of the Christmas celebration in the great manor houses of the Middle Ages. Sponsored by the lord of the manor, the ceremony celebrated Jesus Christ, Redeemer of the world. The climax came when the lord of the manor, a mighty king himself, would bow in reverence to the Christ child, paying homage to the babe of Bethlehem as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Every year, my relatives would watch my sister and me in the Christmas programs. For several weeks, sometimes months, our grandparents would request songs from the program, and we obliged. They loved hearing their grandchildren sing about Jesus.

Every year, we stayed awake for the arrival of Christmas Day. We were not waiting for Santa. Christmas Eve always became Christmas morning at church. We gathered at the 10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service every year to hear about the greatest gift ever given: a Savior, who would take away the sin of the world. We heard the good news of Immanuel, God with us, born to die so that we might receive new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

This year, I hope your Christmas will be alive with God's Word. We encourage you to attend services on Sundays. The Christmas programs will be on Sunday, Dec. 15. Come and hear the children of the congregation proclaim the good news of Jesus! Gather as God's children for Christmas Eve services at 3:30 and 5 p.m. and Christmas Day service at 10 a.m.

Don't forget about our midweek Advent services at 7 p.m. Dec. 4, 11 and 18. Our theme for this year's midweek series will be "Come, Lord Jesus," which encourages daily household devotions. To help families spend time together in God's Word, our church has free copies of the devotional booklet "Behold the Child" available in the narthex.

God not only encourages us to spend time together in His Word at church but also in the home. What better time than to start now? After all, traditions have a way of helping us to develop and reinforce appreciation for the best things in life. Nothing is better than God's promises in Christ Jesus, who came to gift you with abundant life to the fullest -- now and into eternity.

*Pastor Chris*



## Advent Devotionals

Please pick up your copy of the devotional "Behold the Child." It's 37 days of devotions in Advent and Epiphany. The book is available on the table in the narthex.



## Decorate the Church Nov. 30

You are invited to help decorate the church for the Christmas season from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Nov. 30. Come for awhile or stay until it is done!

## 2020 Calendar Youth Fundraiser

Our youth are selling the God's Creation calendars as a fundraiser for \$10 each. They may be purchased at the display table in the narthex on Sunday mornings between services or from the church office during the week. Thank you for supporting our youth.



## New Year's Eve Service


Join other LCMS Lutherans from around the FM area in a joint service at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31 at BSLC. Pastor Dave Suezle from Grace Lutheran Church will preach and Pastor Chris will be the liturgist. Our offering will go to Grace Lutheran School. Ring in the new year with thankfulness and praise.

## 2020 Commitment and Restore His House Cards

Your 2020 annual commitment card and your Restore His House three-year capital campaign card can be turned in to the office. Thank you for letting us know what you plan to give! Pledging our giving helps both us and our congregation to be effective stewards of our resources.

## Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for 2020 are available in the narthex. If you don't find your envelopes, please let the office know, and a box can be made available for you. Thank you for taking home your envelopes.

 <b>Restore His House Capital Campaign</b>		
	<b><u>Pledged</u></b>	<b><u>Goal</u></b>
Capital Campaign	\$275,000	\$330,000
<b>BSLC Treasurer's Report General Operating Fund</b>		
<b><u>Operating Fund</u></b>	<b><u>Oct</u></b>	<b><u>YTD</u></b>
Contributions	\$26,699	276,525
Expense	27,552	323,650
(Shortfall)	<b>(853)</b>	<b>(47,125)</b>

## Stephen Ministry Update

Do you have a heart for people? Do you have an hour a week to help? Would you like to use your God-given talents for the glory of God and benefit of a congregation member? Then becoming a Stephen Minister may be for you!

Stephen Ministers are not pastors or counselors; they simply listen and support individuals, in times of trial and need. Stephen Ministers typically meet with a care receiver for one hour each week.

Beautiful Savior will begin training Stephen Ministers in early 2020. Please see Pastor Chris, Loretta Swanson or Kathy Johnson to learn more.

## LWML Events

**Munchies For Missions** - The LWML Munchies for Missions bake sale will be Sunday, Dec. 8, after both worship services. Bring your containers to the church between 9 a.m. and noon Saturday, Dec. 7, so they can be priced. Take home a variety of goodies for the holidays. Thank you for participating in this LWML fundraiser.

**Poinsettias for the Altar** - Place a poinsettia in memory or in honor of a loved one. There's a sign-up sheet in the narthex. The cost is \$15. The deadline to order is Dec. 8. You may take your poinsettia home after Christmas.

**Christmas Party** - 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19 at 1670 E Gateway Circle (Marlene Bergseth's building). Bring a white elephant gift and a dish to share. Questions contact Mary Seiffert.

**Christmas Caroling** - LWML invites congregation members young and old to sing Christmas carols. Meet in the Bethany lobby and we will carol in the dining hall. If leaving from the church, meet at 2:30 p.m. and then go to Bethany at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 1.

**Sock and Mitten Tree** - Donations are being taken for a sock and mitten tree. Bring in new socks, mittens, caps, scarves or gloves for children or adults. The items will be donated to schools and Churches United for the homeless. Thanks for filling our tree.

**Loose Change Sunday** - Sunday, Dec. 29. Bring change or bills to drop in the mite buckets.

## Voters' Meeting

There will be a voters' meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 8, between services. Discussion will be held on the 2020 budget and other reports.



## Clubs and Service Groups



**Service Group** - Our group for December consists of the letters E-G with Diane Lee as captain. She will call you asking for treats or help with other events. Thanks for your help. Our January group will be the letters H-K with captain Jodi Haekenkamp.

**Elders** - At least one of our elders are here every Sunday morning. They greet members and visitors, help the pastor with any needs and see that all goes well. If you have any concerns for our church, please talk to head elder Adam Tykwinski or any of the elders.

**Gold Club** - Take a break from the Christmas rush and come to Gold Club. Bring a special dish to share and enjoy some potluck food, faith and fellowship. Our next get together will be at noon on Wednesday, Dec 18. Bring a dish to share and a wrapped white elephant gift!

**Quilting and Fellowship** - We will meet once this month on Dec. 12 and resume quilting on Jan. 9. If you have questions, please call Donna Ceroll at 232-2464.

**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 Drive S., Fargo.



## Dorothy Day Food Pantry Thank You

The Dorothy Day food pantry would like to extend their "thank you" for our congregation's donation of food. During the month of Oct., we donated 230 pounds of food to their facility. Thank you to everyone who brought in food items and showed support for this local organization!

## Upcoming Bible Studies

**9:30 a.m. Sunday morning Bible study** - Beautiful Savior has moved to a united curriculum; all grade levels, even adults, will study the same Bible lesson every Sunday in hopes that it will foster discussion between members and equip families for faith formation in the home.

**7 p.m. Tuesday Bible study - Countdown to Christmas:** As Christmas nears, we anticipate all the joys of the season: the festive music, the whimsical decorations, the time spent with friends and family, the exchanging of gifts. But nothing compares with the joy and peace of God's greatest gift: a savior, born to fulfill God's plan of salvation. Imagine the moments leading up to the first Christmas. God's people awaited the fulfillment of His kingdom promises. God had not spoken in quite some time through prophets. No book had been added to Scripture after Malachi in 430 B.C. Join us as we explore Luke 1 as the fulfillment of God's promises take shape when God sends Gabriel to announce that the birth of a promised Savior is right around the corner.

**9 a.m. Thursday Women's Bible study: "Joseph, Carpenter of Steel"** - begins on Dec. 12. When we think about Christmas, we think about Jesus. But what about Joseph? His betrothal to Mary – whom he rather abruptly discovers is pregnant – is only the first crucible he faces as the foster father of the Messiah. Lesson 1: "A Carpenter Made of Steel," Lesson 2: "The Christmas Story," Lesson 3: "Joseph the Guardian," and Lesson 4: "A Carpenter's Legacy." Come and join us for this interesting Bible Study.

## 2020 Altar Flower Sign-up Chart

The 2020 flower chart is outside the office on the bulletin board. The cost is \$25, and you can take them home after second service. Please designate the money for the altar flowers and place in the offering plate or leave in the church office. Please return vases to the church office when done with them. Thank you.

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## Our Compassionate Savior

By Pastor Brian

The Bible is not the only book to instruct us to “live in harmony with one another,” as the apostle Paul wrote in his letter to the Romans. Buddhism, Hinduism, and other world religions—even secular philosophies—give us much the same guidance for life. Our own consciences warns us that we would do well to treat others around us with love and compassion. But no matter who gives us this advice or how often we hear it, we still struggle to put ourselves in the shoes of others or to put their needs and feelings ahead of our own. Our natural inclination is so turned inward that we are blind to the ways that we could be a blessing to others. And when we do think of others, it is often with jealousy, envy, contempt and pride.

Fortunately, the Bible not only tells us what we should be doing, it tells us what God’s Son has done for us. Jesus Christ perfectly considered what others needed from him. He offered forgiveness to those who crucified him. He wept along with the mourners at the tomb of his friend Lazarus. He performed his first miracle at a wedding reception to help the joyful celebration continue even as he revealed his glory as the Son of God. At Christmas, we rejoice at the news that God loves us so much that he took on our own flesh and blood. He took our sorrows on himself. He took on the weight of our sin. And he carried the guilt of our selfishness to the cross where he paid for it in full.

Jesus has shared in our sorrows so that he can share his joy with us. In him we find God’s grace and the promise of forgiveness. In him we find compassion so deep that it spills over into our own hearts. In Christ Jesus we find joy in serving others and in bringing his message of peace to everyone.

“Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another.” (Romans 12:14-16)



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## “Main Street Living North” TV Program News

Peace Love JOY Peace Love JOY

Christmas soon will be here! Thank you Immanuel, “God with us”, for coming to earth to redeem your creation! May this wonderful message be heard and seen by all who will be watching the MSL Advent and Christmas worship services and the special Christmas season Lutheran Hour Ministries animated series programs this month.

We invite you to consider a special year end Christmas gift for our Main Street Living media ministry if you are able. Checks may be sent to “Main Street Living North”, 821 5th Ave. S., Fargo, ND 58103, or donate by credit card or your PayPal account on the website.

The name of the person who has been helping with our MSLN recording set-up and running the Tele-prompter is Courtney Solberg, not Johnson as listed. We apologize for the error.

Thank you, and God’s blessing in Christ!

### December pastors and sermons are as follows:

**Dec 1:** Rev. Kirk Peters, St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Hazen, presents the message: “The King is Coming” based on Matthew 21:1-11. *The LHM Program is: “The City that Forgot About Christmas”*

**Dec 8:** Rev. Dan Voth, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Grand Forks, presents the message: “You Brood of Vipers - Repent!” based on Matthew 3:1-12. *The LHM Program is: “The Stableboy’s Christmas”*

**Dec 15:** Rev. Bruce Blocker, Immanuel Lutheran Church, McIntosh, presents the message: “The 3 Cs of Christmas” based on Matthew 11:2-11. *The LHM Program is: “Red Boots for Christmas”*

**Dec 22:** Rev. Matthew Harrison, president of the LCMS presents this year’s Christmas message. *The LHM Program is: “Christmas Is”*

**Dec 29:** Rev. Roger Paavola, President of the LCMS Mid-South District, presents the message: “Satan Fails; Prophecy is Fulfilled” based on Matthew 2: 13-23. *The LHM Program is: “The Puzzle Club Christmas Mystery”*



## Grace Lutheran School News

**Barnes & Noble bookfair** - 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Sunday, Dec. 8, Barnes & Noble, 1201 42nd  
St. S., Fargo.

**The Christmas musical** - "Three Wee Kings"  
is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.  
Thursday, Dec. 19.



## The History of Advent

(reprinted from the LCMS website)

The word "advent" is from the Latin word for "coming," and as such, describes the "coming" of our Lord Jesus Christ into the flesh.

Advent begins the church year because the church year begins where Jesus' earthly life began — in the Old Testament prophecies of his incarnation.

Advent specifically focuses on Christ's "coming," but Christ's coming manifests itself among us in three ways — past, present, and future.

The traditional use of Advent candles (sometimes held in a wreath) originated in eastern Germany even prior to the Reformation. As this tradition came down to us by the beginning of this century, it involved three purple candles and one pink candle.



The purple candles matched the purple paraments on the altar (purple for the royalty of the coming King). The pink candle was the third candle to be lit (not the fourth) on Gaudete Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent. "Gaudete" means "Rejoice!" in Latin, which is taken from Philippians 4:4.

("Rejoice! ... the Lord is near"). Hence a "pink" candle was used to signify "rejoicing." Some also included a white "Christ candle" in the middle to be lit during the 12 days of Christmas (Dec. 25 to Jan. 5).



## Operation Christmas Child Packing Party a Success

120 shoeboxes were packed on Sunday, Nov. 17. We had over 70 people participate in the packing party and many more who donated items for the boxes or money for shipping. Our Sunday School kids alone collected enough offerings to pay shipping for 28 boxes! Thanks to everyone's generosity, we were able to donate shipping for ALL of our boxes! Special thanks to our "elves" who helped with set up and during the party, solicited some special donations of items, coordinated with Sunday School, and provided church office support. We thank God for all He has provided and for the opportunity to share His love!

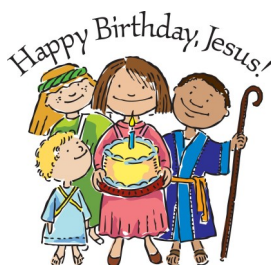


## Preschool through Second Grade Christmas Program

The first-grade and second-grade will practice from 8:30 to 10 a.m. and the preschool and kindergarten students are asked to come at 9:15 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 7. All PreK-second-grade will practice at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 14. Their program will be at 8:15 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 15.

## Sunday School in December

Regular Sunday school classes will be held on Dec. 1 and 8. There will be no Sunday school on Dec. 15, 22 and 29. Regular classes will resume Jan. 5.



## Crossfire Youth Praise Band

Our youth praise band will practice at the church from 7-8 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 8. We will have a Christmas party at 7 p.m. Dec. 15. If you have questions, call Ramsey Dahl at 866-5403.

## “Away in the Mango” Christmas Program



Our Fantastic Fourteen are:  
Davis Rieck, Jason Lehfeltdt,  
Kilee Hansen, Ruby Horsager, Eve Hashbarger,  
Isaac Blotsky, Madeline Lehfeltdt, Jack Ternes,  
Noah Ternes, Kaylee Ramsett, Grace Hohn,  
Elizabeth Castaneda, Violet Dreschel and  
Cooper Pytlik.

Dec. 7	10 a.m. 11-noon	<b>Fantastic Fourteen</b> All third-to-sixth-graders
Dec. 14	10 a.m. to noon 12:30 p.m.	<b>All third-to-sixth graders</b> Dress rehearsal Pizza Party!
Dec. 15	10 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Practice and warm-up <b>Program</b>

If you have any questions, call Ramsey Dahl at 866-5403. Thank you for bringing your children to practice each week.

## Children’s Christmas party

All kindergarten through fifth-grade students please join us for games, fun and food at a Christmas party just for you from 6-7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13. Preschool children may attend, but we would like parents to attend with them, if possible. Please bring a dozen cookies or baked treats to exchange and share.

## December Youth Events

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

**Sunday, Dec. 1** - from 5-7 p.m. – Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 9-12

**Wednesday, Dec. 4** - from 7:45-9 p.m. - Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 6-8

**Sunday, Dec. 8** - from 5-7 p.m. – Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 9-12

**Wednesday, Dec. 11** - from 7:45-9 p.m. - Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 6-8

**Sunday, Dec. 15** - from 5-7 p.m. – Lutheran Youth Fellowship Christmas Party for grades 9-12

**Wednesday, Dec. 18** - from 7:45-9 p.m. - Lutheran Youth Fellowship Christmas Party for grades 6-8

**Sunday, Dec. 15 Senior High Christmas Party:** All those in ninth through 12th grade are invited to a Christmas party from 5-7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15, at the church. Please bring a treat to share and a wrapped gift (between \$8-\$10).

**Wednesday, Dec. 18 Junior High Christmas Party:** All those in sixth through eighth grade are invited to a Christmas party from 7:45-9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18, at the church. Please bring a treat to share and a wrapped gift (between \$8-\$10).



# 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 Worship at 8:15 and 10:45 a.m.

Sunday School and Adult Bible Study 9:30 a.m.

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

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Organization  
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Fargo, ND  
58102  
Permit No. 1068  
Ghost No. 80108

### 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

### Council Members

Chairman: Denise Doeling 238-1321

Vice-Chair: Mike Schlichtmann 552-0380

Treasurer: Craig Hashbarger 541-0930

Secretary: Kayla Muehler 899-4504

Properties: Vacant

Education: Bobbi Hestdalen 540-2218

Stewardship: Jennifer Krause 287-8627

Evangelism: Tim Deitemeyer 793-2220

### Board of Elders

A-Bo Paul Asche 361-6960

Br-D Lloyd Jemtrud 799-7450

E-G Rich Beaver 371-9077

H-K Joe Pytlik 261-5943

L-N Mike Sellden 235-5828

O-R Adam Tykwinski 793-8170

S Dave Hohn 205-6881

T-Z Scott Persoon 219-0399

*Elders are assigned families based on last name*

### Other Volunteers

LWML President: Mary Seiffert 241-9032

Choir Director: Ramsey Dahl 237-9009

RRLSA Board Representatives: Pam Grothman 793-6517

Kim Ternes 205-7101

Financial Secretary: Beth Gustafson 239-9090

ENLIGHTEN is a  
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Lutheran Church.