February 2019

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

That's Some Heavy Lifting

By Pastor Chris

A comedian once joked that you only need to ask for help with moving to discover your true friends.

Moving requires problem-solving skills. We have a sectional in our basement that got shoved down there somehow, but I don't think it will ever come out.

Moving calls for coordination and organization. (Good luck just stuffing bedding and toys in a box and sorting it out later with five children making claims.)

Moving calls for discernment. It asks you to take stock of your life and determine what to keep and what to throw away. That means saying goodbye to some things.

Most of all, moving requires heavy lifting.

The apostle Paul takes note of some heavy lifting that the Lord accomplished for us. In the first chapter of His letter to the church in Colossae, Paul writes: "He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

(Continued on Page 2.)

LWML Prayer Service at BSLC Feb. 9

Everyone is invited to the LWML prayer service at Beautiful Savior on Saturday, Feb. 9. We will have muffins, fruit and some brunch bites, so please plan to enjoy some warm fellowship and food served by our LWML women beginning at 9 a.m. The prayer service will follow at 10 a.m., and will be led by Pastor Chris.

The 2019 Prayer Service, written by past LCMS Rocky Mountain District President Rev. Allen D. Anderson, is centered around the acronym for "CARES" and based on Psalm 94:17–19: If the Lord had not been my help, my soul would soon have lived in the land of silence. When I thought, "My foot slips," your steadfast love, O LORD, held me up. When the cares of my heart are many, your consolations cheer my soul. Everyone is welcome to attend!



That's Some Heavy Lifting

(Continued from Page 1.)

This move was no easy matter. As true God, only the sinless son of God could provide a sufficient ransom for us and could overcome sin, death and the power of the devil. As true man, only the sinless son of God could provide a perfect substitute and taste death on our behalf.

Because of Christ's suffering, death and resurrection, we have been transferred to a perfect standing with the Father, who welcomes us into His kingdom. Through Christ, we have received grace and truth. Through Christ, we have forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Through Christ, sin, death and mourning, will pass away.

Why then do we seek to settle so easily back into the slum of sin? Why do we step out from God's will and ways – which came at the considerable cost to our Lord – by embracing the kingdom of darkness once again?

Burdened by the old nature, we never fully will reflect the light of Christ in this life. But someone who has seen the light, especially as given by our Lord, should think of how ridiculous it becomes to put a blindfold on our eyes and shackles on our hearts to return to our old domicile, a place of squalor, sin and death.

Christ has called us out of this darkness. Our Lord forgives our sins, but he also gives us His Holy Spirit to know and do His will. Paul writes: "And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light."

Christ has brought us out of that with His holy, precious blood. He did it on a long road down to Calvary. He did it to bring us back to God.

In our daily attitudes and living, with true repentance and discernment, let us celebrate our new dwelling in God's Kingdom made possible by the Father's perfect moving plan made possible by Christ's heavy lifting!

Paster Chris

Upcoming Bible Studies

9:40 a.m. Sunday morning Bible study: "A Simple Way to Pray" Having a hard time finding the time or the words to pray?

In this study, we will delve into Luther's small and large catechisms as bottomless prayer treasure chests, or better stated, war chests, to help us do battle with the world, the devil and our sinful flesh.

God does not intend prayer as a chore or a means to appease Him. He simply invites us to call upon Him in every need, to praise Him and give Him thanks. Spend some time developing this lifelong refreshment and assurance that we, as God's dear and beloved children, can always call upon our heavenly Father, who promises to hear us for Jesus' sake.

7 p.m. Tuesdays: "End Times"

This study explores what the Bible has to say about the end times, the glory of Jesus' return and the resurrection of God's faithful into that glory forever.

9 a.m. Thursdays Women's Bible study: "Angels" - Do angels really have wings? Do they protect people from harm? In eight Bible lesson you will learn what the Bible really says about angels, including their service to God and their ministry to people. Come and join the class and learn about angels.

7 p.m. Thursdays: "Joining Jesus" Evangelism Study

We will take a look at a different approach to evangelism from a book titled, "Joining Jesus On His Mission - How to Be an Everyday Missionary" by Greg Finke. This study will begin at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 7 and will meet for 8-10 weeks. Using the five step method in the book, we will learn how to meet people right where they are. Greg states in his book, we will find out how Jesus is messing with people and how we can be a friend to them. For questions, please see Vicar Brian.





Volunteers Needed for Packing Food

Feed My Starving Children has organized an FM Christian Mobilepack from Jan. 31 to Feb. 2 at Scheels Arena, 5225 31st Ave. S, with the goal of boxing 2.5 million meals for hungry children around the world. Beautiful Savior will work a shift from 5-7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2, with slots for 25 volunteers. We have filled the 25 slots, but are requesting additional slots. At least 6,200 children die each day from hunger-related causes. Please speak with Pastor Chris or Vicar Brian to consider helping out with this worthwhile effort.



Consider Donating Blood

An hour of your time could save someone's life. Throughout January and February, Beautiful Savior is encouraging its members to donate blood through Vitalant, formerly known as United Blood Services, 3231 11th St. S in Fargo. When you donate blood, it doesn't just help people during disasters. From surgery to fighting cancer to giving birth, blood donations are used to save around 12,000 lives a day. A lot of the medical care we take for granted wouldn't exist without donations. To determine your eligibility and donate, call 877-258-4825.

Restore His House Capital Campaign

There has been more than \$266,000 of the \$330,000 goal committed so far for this three year effort. Thank you and keep those pledges coming in!



Special Voters' Meeting Feb. 10

There will be a special voters' meeting Sunday, Feb. 10 between services at 9:30 am to discuss the GLS tuition and explain the differences in the options and the decision we have to make. Please try to attend this important meeting. Thanks.

Need a babysitter for a Valentine's date night?

The NYG youth will host a free will donation babysitting night from 5 - 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 15. Drop your child off at the church for a few hours for a relaxing date night. If you have any questions contact Vicar Brian at 314-532-0012.

Elder and Lay Leader Workshop

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Fargo, will host a lay workshop focusing on elders in the church Saturday, Feb. 2. The workshop, however, will not be for elders alone; it will also cover care ministry within a congregation. The presenter will be Rev. Tyler Arnold, a doxology collegium fellow and senior pastor of Christ Lutheran Church, Platte Woods, Mo. He completed doxology training in 2010, receiving a Certificate in Christian Counsel and Care. The workshop begins with registration at 9 a.m. A freewill offering will be taken to defray the workshop costs. The Immanuel elders will provide lunch. Pastor Arnold will also be the quest at Immanuel's worship service on Sunday, Feb 3.

Main Street Living North Choir

The Main Street Living Choir will be rehearsing and recording on Feb 9. Practice will be from 12-1 p.m. with recording from 1-2:30 p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1258 Broadway N, Fargo. Please join us.

BSLC Treasurer's Report General Operating Fund

Operating Fund	<u>Dec</u>	YTD
Contributions	\$57,782	347,932
Expense	25,890	340,420
Surplus	31,892	7,512



Clubs and Service Groups



Service Group - Our group for February consists of the letters A-Bo with Andrea Olson as captain. She will call you asking for treats or help for other events. Thanks for your help. Our March group will be the letters Br-D with captain Janet Koppinger.

Elder - Our Elders for February are Rich Beaver and Mike Sellden. They will be here Sunday mornings to 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 Rich and Mike or any of the elders.

Gold Club - Gold Club is a time to get together and enjoy a potluck meal and some fellowship. Gold Club was originally formed for our senior members but is for everyone. Feel free to join us for food, faith and fellowship. Bring a dish or treat you would "love" to share and join us at noon Wednesday, Feb. 13.

Quilting and Fellowship - Join us at 9 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 14 and 28. We meet twice a month for 5-6 hours. Being a quilter is not a requirement; much conversation and fellowship is involved. We donate quilts to local organizations and sell them to members. If there is a silent auction, we are happy to donate a quilt. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Ceroll 232-2464.

BSLC Coffee Club - Every Friday, BSLC members gather at 9 a.m. at Randy's, 2130 University Drive S., Fargo. This is for both men and women of any age.

Baptisms

Jan. 13: Ameila Elizabeth Maas, daughter of Megan Marcks and Nolan Maas, born June 23, 2018. Her sponsor was Lisa Foulkes.



LWML News

We will meet at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 21. All women are invited to join. If you can't attend the monthly meetings, consider joining a committee to help make things happen. Your participation in LWML is a great way to make new friends and serve the Lord.

CCRI—Build 4 The Guys Update - The four guys moved into their single story fully-accessible home on Jan. 22. The home was built for four guys, who range in age from 44-58, each with varying degrees of physical and mental disabilities and health issues. The new home offers mobility and safety options not found in their previous home, along with some fun amenities such as a sky mural on a bedroom wall, a wheelchair friendly bathtub, an art room, cozy recliners to watch TV and a "Batcave" bedroom.

Build 4 The Guys benefited from the proceeds from the 2018 LWML Women's Christmas Tea. CCRI is still looking to raise about \$100,000. Half will be matched by the Otto Bremer Trust. An open house for the public was held Tuesday, Jan. 29, at 4420 10th St. S., Moorhead.

LWML Prayer Service at BSLC, Feb. 9 - Food and fellowship at 9 a.m. followed by the prayer service at 10 a.m. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Operation Christmas Child Update

The 77 Operation Christmas Child

boxes from Beautiful Savior went to hard to reach areas. This means we don't know the countries or locations, but we do know they will be serving an extra important purpose. These areas have very restricted access and are often either hostile to Christianity or have cultural barriers. These locations are not revealed out of concern for the safety of local Christian ministry partners. In these areas, a shoe box gift provides the excuse to visit a family or a village or even to get into a country through customs to share the Gospel message. It can change the attitude of a child, a family member, even a whole village towards Christianity and the Gospel message. To learn more about the important ministry of OCC in these hard to reach areas, visit www.samaritanspurse.org.



Remember the Relationship

By Vicar Brian

The old story goes something like this: a little boy named Henry and a little girl named Margaret are spending a few days with their grandmother on her farm. Henry is outside, alone, playing with a new slingshot. He sees his grandmother's pet duck. On a lark, he points the slingshot at the duck and fires. To the boy's horror, the duck falls over dead. Now in a panic, Henry hides the duck in the woodpile. But then his sister, Margaret, comes up to him and says, "I saw what you did." The next morning, Margaret announces to her grandmother that, for some reason, Henry wants to do her chores as well as his own. When Henry begins to protest, Margaret quickly whispers to him, "Remember, I saw what you did."

Finally, after several days of this, Henry can no longer stand it. In tears, he runs to his grandmother and confesses everything. Immediately the grandmother embraces the boy and says. "Oh, Henry. Don't be afraid. I've already forgiven you. I was standing at the kitchen window when it all happened." It doesn't take long for Henry's tears of shame to turn into tears of relief and joy. And then he asks the question: "Grandma, why didn't you tell me you saw everything?" To that grandma replies, "Well, Henry, I just had to find out how long you were going to let your sister enslave you."

One of the oldest tricks in Satan's playbook is to get us to forget the kind of relationship we have with God through faith in Jesus. He does this by haunting us about our past failures, piling on the regret, piling on the guilt. In time, we can begin to distance ourselves from God, afraid to open up to Him and afraid to admit to ourselves what a broken, sinful mess we really are.

But the Lord wants us to remember something. He wants us to remember that His entire relationship with us is a relationship of mercy—His merciful love for us in Jesus Christ. As soon as we remember this, then we can also remember that Satan has nothing with which to haunt us or to make us feel afraid. Satan has no answer for God's mercy. None.

"But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy," (Titus 3:4-5).

"Main Street Living North" TV Program News

We are encouraged and thankful to hear from an increasing number of people who are watching "Main Street Living." Please continue to share information about this TV and internet ministry with your friends and family. Continue to introduce and/or remind all WDAY XTRA channel viewers that they can now watch at 10 a.m. each Sunday. FOX network stations continue to air at 9 a.m. Sundays.

We thank all of the congregations and individual members who have faithfully supported MSLN financially over our first two years. A reminder of the matching funds offer from the Main Street Living network continues until \$16,000 of new donations are received. To add your much needed financial support, 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. Thank you and God's blessing in Christ!



February pastors and sermons are as follows:

Feb. 3: Rev. Matt Thompson, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Bismarck and St. John's Lutheran Church, McClusky presents the message: "Healing in Body and Soul" based on Luke 4:31-44. This Is The Life program is "Point of No Return".

Feb. 10: Vicar Brock Schmeling, Zion Lutheran Church, Bismarck presents the message: "Lord, save your people of unclean lips" based on Isaiah 6:5. This Is The Life program is "Mr. Big".

Feb. 17: Vicar Justin Woodside, Bethel Lutheran Church, Bismarck and Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Bismarck delivers today's message: "The Truly Blessed" based on Luke 6:20-26. This Is The Life program is "The Day We Lost Ella Mae".

Feb. 24: Rev. Toby Heller, Concordia Lutheran Church, Beulah and Zion Lutheran Church, Glen Ullin presents the message: "The Firstfruit of Those Who Have Fallen Asleep" based on I Cor. 15:21-26, 30-42. This Is The Life program is "Out of Bondage".



Grace Lutheran School News

Supporting Grace Lutheran School - As a "not for profit" organization, we need the financial backing of our association churches and generous donations from our alumni. We sponsor two fundraisers to strengthen our budget through Giving Hearts on Feb. 14 and the annual Grace Auction on March 23. You can also support our ministry through your Thrivent Choice Dollars by contacting Thrivent and tell them you want your Choice Dollars to go to GLS.

Volunteers are always needed - GLS always needs helpers to assist students, and teachers, supervise recess, help in the kitchen as well as with projects and repairs around the school. Call Principal John Hagge at 232-7747 or email jhagge@gracels.com for further information.

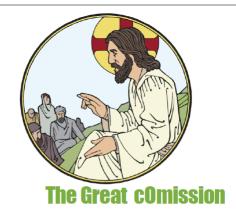
Giving Hearts Day, Feb. 14 - In the past five years Giving Hearts Day has raised \$180,361 to support GLS in our mission to prepare our children for service to our Triune God, one another and the greater community. Your donation will help our *Fund Their Future* campaign to make a GLS education accessible for even more families in the FM area. Donate at GivingHeartsDay.org.



Annual Grace Auction, March 23, 2019 - The committee is looking for volunteers to help procure donations, decorations, and help setting up the ballroom, working on class projects and finding auction items. Some ideas could include fun experiences, unique craft/art, autographed items, outdoor games or camping/fishing/beach gear, small appliances, spa certificates, rugs, small furniture, jewelry, baked goods for a year, hotel stays, theme park tickets - be creative. All donations can be dropped off at the school or someone can pick them up. Contact Dinah Sommerfeld at dsommerfeld912@gmail.com or 212-0072 or call the school office for more information.

BSLC Food Pantry Needs

The food pantry at Beautiful Savior could still use cereal, soups, peanut butter and non-perishable food items that don't need to be cooked. Please leave the items in the church office. Thank you so much for helping to restock our shelves.



A Higher Things Youth Retreat

The Great Commission is a hallmark of American Christianity. The way it's normally told is "Jesus said, "You have to go and make disciples. If you don't, who will? And you must use any and all means necessary to win them for me." But is this really what Jesus says? Might the modern American telling of the Great Commission include a Great Omission? Does our Lutheran distinction give us an even better insight into the final verses of St. Matthew's Holy Gospel? Join us as we explore the end of St. Matthew's Holy Gospel from a Lutheran perspective and gain new insights on Christ, His Church and the Sacraments.

Pastor Daniel Voth is associate pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Grand Forks, ND. He has no podcasts nor written any books. He hasn't started his dissertation for the Doctorate of Ministry courses he completed eight years ago. But, he loves teaching teenagers about Jesus and just might say something you want to hear! Pastor Voth and his wife of over 21 years have four children who are turning out well, in-spite of their mother and father.

Zion Lutheran Church in Gwinner, ND will be hosting the Higher Things youth retreat on March 29-30. The cost is \$50 per person. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex. See Vicar Brian for questions.



Crossfire Youth Praise Band

Youth praise band will practice 7 p.m. on Feb. 10, 17 and 6 p.m. Feb. 23. Crossfire will play at the 8:15 a.m. worship service on Feb. 24. If you have questions, call Ramsey Dahl at 866-5403.

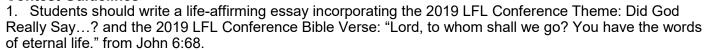
2019 Lutherans for Life Essay Contest

Sponsored by the Council of Federation Presidents, Lutherans For Life

For students in Grades 6 through 12

(Any Lutheran student or student in a Lutheran school)

Contest Guidelines



- 2. Examples of topics the essay could deal with are, but are not limited to: abortion, the disabled, adoption, foster care, infanticide, cloning, stem cell research, physician assisted Suicide and euthanasia.
- 3. Essays should include the student's name, grade, school or church name, and email address. All entries submitted by a teacher or pastor should include their name and email address as well. This information should be submitted on the rubric page used in evaluating the essay.
- 4. All sources for references, statistics and quotes should be incorporated within the essay and then included in a bibliography at the end.
- 5. Grades six through eight should submit essays up to 400 words. Grades nine through twelve should submit essays up to 750 words.
- 6. Each school or church should select the best essay from their church or school from each of the two grade levels and submit the essays digitally using Microsoft Word by email to Rev. Matt Thompson at dakotapastor@gmail.com by March 15, 2019.
- 7. There will be a first place prize (\$100) and a second place prize (\$50) for each of the two grade levels. The two first place prize winners will then advance to the national contest.
- 8. The grand prize for the national winning entry at each grade level will be \$250, plus free conference registration to the 2019 Regional Conference of the winners choice, plus a one-night stay at the conference hotel.
- 9. All entries become the property of Lutherans For Life.
- 10. For questions or resources on the sanctity of life, see: lutheransforlife.org

February Youth Events

Upcoming Bible Study Opportunities: Join us for food, fun and fellowship!

Sunday, Feb. 3 - from 5-7 p.m. – Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 9-12 Wednesday, Feb. 6 - from 7:30-9 p.m. Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 6-8 Sunday, Feb. 10 - from 5-7 p.m. – Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 9-12 Wednesday, Feb. 13 - from 7:30-9 p.m. Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 6-8 Sunday, Feb. 17 - from 5-7 p.m. – Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 9-12 Wednesday, Feb. 20 - from 7:30-9 p.m. Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 9-12 Wednesday, Feb. 27 - from 7:30-9 p.m. Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 6-8 Wednesday, Feb. 27 - from 7:30-9 p.m. Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 6-8

Upcoming Events:

BSLC NYG FargoDome Fundraiser - For more information, see Vicar Brian.

Friday, Feb. 15 NYG Babysitting Fundraiser - the NYG youth will host a free will donation babysitting night at the church from 5 - 8 p.m. See Vicar Brian for more information.

A Higher® Things Youth Retreat - March 29-30, Zion Lutheran Church, Gwinner, ND



Lutherans

For Life

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Contact Us

PHONE: (701) 293-1047

office@bslcfargo.org **EMAIL:**

WEB: www.beautifulsaviorfargo.com

Office Hours

9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday

Pastor Chris and Vicar Brian are also available by appointment.

Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship at 8:15 and 10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study and Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

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

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Fargo, ND 58102 Permit No. 1068

Ghost No. 80108

CHURCH STAFF

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THIS PUBLICATION

ENLIGHTEN is a monthly publication of **Beautiful Savior** Lutheran Church.

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Stewardship:	Jennifer Krause	287-8627
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E-G	Rich Beaver	371-9077		
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S	Dave Hohn	205-6881		
T-Z	Scott Persoon	219-0399		
Elders are assigned families based on last name				

Other Volunteers

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Choir Director:	Ramsey Dahl	237-9009
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	Kim Ternes	205-7101
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