February 2020

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

Only God Can Make 'Piling On' Such a Good Thing

By Pastor Chris

The upper Red River Valley's landscape has changed quite dramatically in the last few months thanks to winter storms. Mountains have taken up residence in plains sight. (Pardon the pun.) My front yard won't be confused with Detroit Mountain or Andes, but snow peaks and ridges keep growing with each passing week. If the snow keeps coming - as it most certainly will - I'm going to need a bigger yard.

Winter's cumulative wrath takes a toll. Who knows what waits on the other side of that massive wintery pile that blocks my view of the intersection? Will my roof withstand the accumulating snow without dripping or even caving in? And look no further than 52nd Avenue if you think you can't get buried under all this. That's the fallout from winter piling on.

Piling on happens in other ways, too. In today's society, scrutiny and mocking run rampant. People take aim to unload at anything and everything. Once a mean-spirited thread starts on social media, people join in criticizing something or someone -- usually in superficial but still hurtful ways. Within this cultural climate, people find themselves buried under an avalanche of vitriol.

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Lenten Series Highlights Christ's Compassion vs. Human Anger

Are you angry? Today's culture praises anger as a virtue, encouraging belittling, insulting or hating others who disagree with -- or simply question -- our views. Sadly, this attitude has pervaded the church, affecting and infecting how we relate to others. Many Christians fiercely justify their ongoing anger, classifying it as "righteous."

The Bible makes clear that God alone is perfect and without sin. His anger is truly righteous and justified. Human anger, however, often leads to sin. The New Testament often equates human anger with sin. Jeff Gibbs, a professor at Concordia Seminary St. Louis, wrote an article about this topic, noting that vengeance and anger prove dangerous weapons in the hands of sinners. Gibbs concludes that righteous anger and wrath belong to God alone, not to the disciples of Jesus. He notes that several New Testament texts highlight anger in a list of sins to be avoided. Christ's Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5 equates anger with murder, rendering us liable to God's judgment.

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Only God Can Make 'Piling On' Such a Good Thing

(Continued from Page 1.)

We all contribute to this problem. Let's face it, our sins pile up quickly. Each and every day, we add to the mess. God would be right to pile on His accusation and condemnation. We dare not even imagine what waits on the other side for the condemned. Can we withstand the accumulating wages of sin? And look no further than Judas the disciple if you think you can't get buried under sin and guilt.

In Christ, God removes the mountains of filth and sin you and I accumulate, placing all that sin on the Holy One of God. Paul writes: For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God," (2 Cor. 5:21). Talk about piling on!

Because Jesus takes all your sin and death upon himself, you receive God's undeserved favor and mercy time and time again. The grace just keeps coming. In John's Gospel, the disciple tells us about the kind of piling on that you receive from Christ: "For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ," (John 1:16-17.) God offers this undeserved favor by connecting you to Jesus through the Means of Grace. Through your baptism, the Old Adam, your sins and your death all have been buried with Christ, and you have been raised to new life and eternal life. Through God working through His Word, faith has taken up residence in your typically rebellious heart. Through Christ's absolution and Supper, God removes the obstacles that seek to block your access to God by freely offering the forgiveness of sins.

We still have a long way to go until the mountains of snow disappear from the area. Mount Fargo on the north side might hang around until July. But through Jesus, God already has changed the landscape of your standing before God, pouring out grace upon grace in a perpetual tide. Only God can make piling on such a good thing.



Lenten Series Highlights Christ's Compassion vs. Human Anger

(Continued from Page 1.)

Although we may become angry at something or someone who violates the Word of God, we often express that anger in unhelpful and even harmful ways. In our 2020 Lenten series, "Deliverance from Danger Human anger meets Christ's compassion in the Passion," we will explore the destructive nature of supposed "righteous" anger in human. In response to all this misplaced, misinformed and misguided human anger, Jesus responds with grace and mercy, compassionately dispensing God's gifts.

The series will begin at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 26, with the following schedule:

Ash Wednesday: The danger of human anger – Matt. 5:21-26

Lent Midweek 1: Peter draws the sword – Luke 22:47-53

Lent Midweek 2: Caiaphas proclaims judgment – **Matt. 25:57-67**

Lent Midweek 3: Judas takes his own life - Matt. 27:3-10

Lent Midweek 4: Herod's delight crashes to contempt — **Luke 23:1-12**

Lent Midweek 5: Mob mentality takes over – **Matt. 27:15-26**

Maundy Thursday: Jesus prepares a heavenly feast — Matt. 26:17-20 Good Friday: Jesus prepares a heavenly kingdom — Luke 23:39-43 Easter Sunday: Jesus prepares us for Good News — Matt. 28:1-10



As part of our Lenten series, we also will offer fellowship meals at 6 p.m. before services. Please bring your favorite soup, sandwiches, sides or desserts to share. There are no meals during Holy Week.

As we seek to break the cycle of anger in our culture and our lives, come see how the compassion of Jesus changes everything.



LWML Prayer Service

Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1258 Broadway, Fargo, is hosting the LWML *Living in Love, Bearing Fruit* prayer service on Saturday, Feb. 22. Join us at 9 a.m. for treats and coffee and at 10 a.m. for the prayer service. All women are invited.

Potluck Suppers During Lent

BSLC offers soup and sandwich suppers before our Lenten worship each Wednesday from

6-6:45 p.m. You are invited to bring soups, sandwiches or desserts as you are able. Our groups will do the set-up and clean-up. Listed below are the

dates for each group. Thanks for your help.

L-N	Mary Seiffert
O-R	Wanda Roesler
S	Maggie Stende
T-Z	Kim Ternes
A-Bo	Andrea Olson
Br-D	Janet Koppinger
	O-R S T-Z A-Bo

Easter Flowers On Altar

A sign-up sheet will be available in the narthex around Ash Wednesday to order Easter flowers in memory or in honor of loved ones. Flowers and the prices will be listed on the sign-up sheets. Please make checks payable to the LWML.

Stephen Ministry to Begin Training

Beautiful Savior will begin training Stephen Ministers in February. Our first training session will be from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20. All those who want to serve as Stephen Ministers must fill out an application from the office.

What is a Stephen Minister? 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 talk with individuals, supporting them in times of trial and need. Stephen Ministers typically meet with a care receiver for one hour each week. Contact Pastor Chris or Pastor Brian for more information.

Restore His House							
Capital Campaign							
Capital	<u>Pledged</u>	<u>Goal</u>					
Campaign	\$280,000	\$330,000					
BSLC Treasurer's Report							
General Operating Fund							
Oper. Fund	Dec.	<u>YTD</u>					
Contributions	\$64,369	372,686					
Expense	55,628	397,246					
Surplus/(Shortfall)	8,741	(24,560)					
Revised 1/27/20							

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 at home.

7 p.m. Tuesday Bible study - Romans: A Precious Letter: Paul's letter to the church in Rome tackles many issues in the early church. It addresses controversies, lays the groundwork for understanding the Christian faith and outlines the duties of those called to faith -- even as it excludes Christian discipline as the basis for salvation.

Martin Luther called this letter "the chief part of the New Testament" and "the purest Gospel." Its pages served as a breakthrough for Luther in understanding God's forgiveness, mercy and grace in Christ. Luther noted: "It is worthy not only that every Christian should know it word for word by heart but also that he should occupy himself with it every day as the daily bread of the soul. We can never read it or ponder over it too much, for the more we deal with it, the more precious it becomes."

9 a.m. Thursday Women's Bible study: "Isaiah, Trusting God in Troubled Times" - In Isaiah, you'll discover that trouble and suffering are nothing new to God's people. Isaiah raises a loud cry for revival in this midst of a rotting society. Isaiah firmly believes that God can triumph even in the worst of times. Join us as we dig deep into the message of repentance, forgiveness and hope. You'll find comfort for coping with your own troubled times.

Clubs and Service Groups



Service Group - Our group for February consists of the letters L-N with Mary Seiffert as captain. She will call you asking for treats or help with other events. Thanks for your help. Our March group will be the letters O-R with captain Wanda Roesler.

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 - Gold Club is a time to get together and enjoy a potluck meal and some fellowship. Gold Club is for everyone, so feel free to join us for food, faith and fellowship. Bring a dish or treat that you would "love" to share and join us at noon Wednesday, Feb. 12 as we celebrate Valentine's day.

Quilting and Fellowship - Quilting will meet at 9 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 13 and 27. We meet twice a month for 5-6 hours. Being a quilter is not a requirement. 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.

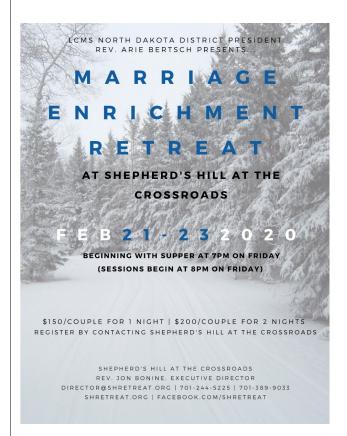
BSLC Coffee Club - BSLC members, men and women of any age, are invited to gather at 9 a.m. on Friday mornings at Randy's, 2130 University Drive S., Fargo.

LWML News - We will meet at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 20. All women are invited to join us. 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.

Beautiful Garden - The fourth annual Beautiful Garden at Beautiful Savior winter kick-off potluck is planned for noon, Sunday Feb. 23. It will be held after second service in the fellowship hall. Invite former and new gardeners to come and help plan the 2020 garden. We have a number of potential enhancements to discuss such as plot layout, seed and plant placement and grant planning. Finally, we need to decide how we can recruit more gardeners, promote fellowship along with stewardship and how the harvest can be best used!

The Reason I Believe: The Basics of Christian Apologetics Bible Study

This Bible study will be co-led by former DCE Ken Koehler and Lenny Heupel on Sunday afternoons from 3:30-4:45 p.m. Feb. 9 through April 5 at St. Andrew Lutheran Church, West Fargo. You don't have to attend every Sunday. Everyone is welcome – even skeptics! The cost for the book is \$13. Make checks payable to "St. Andrew Office Account." To register, call St. Andrew church office at 701-282-4195, or Ken Koehler at 701-429-3092.



FM Bach Choir

Calling all singers! Immanuel Lutheran Church will be hosting a performance at 7 p.m.

Saturday, April 4, featuring the Bach Chamber Choir, Bach Festival Choir and Bach String Ensemble. If anyone is interested in auditioning for the Chamber Choir, contact Katie Rolf at 651-336-1012 or Kathryn.rolf@gmail.com

Give God the Glory

By Pastor Brian

Last year, Giannis Antetokounmpo won the NBA Most Valuable Player award. For Milwaukee Bucks' fans, this was especially great to see. The "Greek Freak" amazed basketball fans all year with his ball-handling

skills, powerful slam dunks and all-out effort. At just under 7 feet tall and 242 pounds, Giannis is just about unstoppable. And so, when he took the stage to give his acceptance speech, you may be surprised to hear the first thing he said: "I want to thank God for blessing me with this amazing talent." He went on to thank God three times before saying anything else.

It is refreshing to hear someone give God credit rather than boasting about his own abilities. Boasting about ourselves is a strong temptation. But think of what happens when we do. We take credit away from God. We forget who is ultimately responsible for anything we accomplish.

God knew this would be a temptation for Gideon and his men. So he said to Gideon, "You have too many men. I cannot deliver Midian into their hands, or Israel would boast against me, 'My own strength has saved me." Boasting is a strong temptation.



And never is boasting a more serious sin than when we are tempted to think that our own strength saves us from hell and earns us heaven. The devil knows this to be true, so he is constantly tries to convince us that we can get to God on our own. He knows that if we trust in ourselves rather than in Jesus, we will never get to God. Only Jesus' perfect life and innocent death could do that. It is His gift to us, not something we earn. Remember this the next time you are tempted to think you are good enough for God. Remember the story of Gideon, and give God the glory for your salvation and all the blessings in your life.

The Lord said to Gideon, "You have too many men. I cannot deliver Midian into their hands, or Israel would boast against me, 'My own strength has saved me.'" (Judges 7:2)

"Main Street Living North" TV Program News

One of our regular viewers and his wife recently set up a charitable gift with the LCMS Foundation designating Main Street Living North as one of the recipients. This gave them a tax deduction now, plus ongoing income for the rest of their lives, most of which is not taxed. They suggest this idea to others, so here is that suggestion passed along!

Please continue to share information about our LCMS Main Street Living media ministry with others. In addition to being broadcast each Sunday morning, you can view all archived programs anytime at www.mainstreetliving.com - then click on the link under the picture identified as North (Fargo).

Thank you for 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 on the website.

Thank you, and God's blessing in Christ!

February pastors and sermons are as follows:

Feb 2: Rev. Dan Suelzle, Wittenberg Lutheran Chapel, Grand Forks, presents the message: "The Presentation of Our Lord," based on Luke 2:22-32. This Is The Life program is: The Point of No Return.

Feb 9: Rev. Dave Suelzle, Grace Lutheran Church, Fargo, presents the message: "The Salty Disciples," based on Matthew 5:13. This Is The Life program: Mr. Big.

Feb 16: Rev. Leo Deitemeyer, First American Lutheran Church, Mayville, presents the message: The Heart of the Matter: A Holy Heart," based on Matthew 5:21-37, plus I Samuel 16:7. This Is The Life program is: The Day We Lost Ella Mae.

Feb 23: Rev. Tim Schiller, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Alexandria, MN, presents the message: "Jesus' Transformation Is for Our Transformation" based on Matthew 17:1-9. This Is The Life program: Out of Bondage.



POBLO - Christian Outreach To New Immigrants

Have you noticed the number of new Americans in the FM area? They are included in these words of Jesus: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you," (Matthew 28:19-20). They too need Jesus!

Pastors and lay members from our area LCMS congregations have begun meeting to pray and plan for how we can best share the loving and saving message of Jesus Christ with new Americans.

We are hoping to partner with an international LCMS-based ministry called POBLO, which places missionaries in cities with a high number of new immigrants. POBLO stands for People Of The Book Lutheran Outreach, which is in partnership with at least 110 LCMS congregations in the United States. After a survey/study of an area, a trained missionary representative of a primary ethnic background is brought in to work with our congregations.

The theme of POBLO is: The Mission Field is here - the time is now! Their mission statement is: To meet the physical, social, and spiritual needs of Muslims and other immigrants and refugees in the United States, by sharing the love of Jesus in practical and culturally relevant ways.

First we must build relationships through community engagement events such as English as a second language, sewing and computer classes; tutoring; a clothing bank; etc. After building relationships, we will invite them to study the Bible and hear about Jesus!

POBLO's closest center is Rochester, MN. They have 16 ESL classes per week among their LCMS congregations. More than 70 volunteers work with various community engagement events and Bible discovery classes, which has resulted in a blessing of 27 baptisms last year alone!

We hope to raise awareness to introduce an intentional outreach to new Americans in our area. Visit www.poblo.org. To help or learn more please contact your pastors or Ken Koehler at 701-429-3092, or email him at dcekkoehler@ideaone.net

And finally, and perhaps most importantly, please begin praying for God's blessings on this new effort to build relationships with new Americans who need to hear the message of God's love through a faith relationship with Jesus. Katie Rolf, a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Fargo, has offered to coordinate a group of prayer partners. Her email is kathryn.rolf@gmail.com.

Thank you, and may God bless these efforts to share His love!



Grace Lutheran School News

All School Open House - GLS will be open to any family interested in attending for the 2020-2021 school year from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 6.

Giving Hearts Day - Grace Lutheran School is once again raising money on Giving Hearts Day,

Feb. 13, and our goal is \$50,000! We need your help! Please share all GLS social media posts and tell others about the



great things we've got going at Grace!

Our generous supporters have provided more than \$25,000 matching funds to increase your gift, and we are so thankful for their belief in our school! If you know someone who might be willing to challenge others to support Grace on Giving Hearts Day, please contact Donovan Larson at donoblarson@gmail.com.

Operation Christmas Child News

The 2019 OCC total is 10,569,405 shoebox gifts packed for children around the world. Every box is an opportunity for a child to hear the good news of Jesus Christ. Pray for the children in hard-to-reach areas who will receive the 121 boxes our congregation sent. Pray for safety for those distributing these gifts and all people in these communities who so need the Gospel message.

Remember, you can collect items for shoeboxes all year round!

Crossfire Youth Praise Band

Crossfire will lead the 8:15 a.m. worship service on Sunday, Feb. 9. We will practice at the church from 7-8 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 16 and 23 and 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7. If you have questions, call Ramsey Dahl at 866-5403.

ENLIGHTEN

Higher Things Youth Retreat

Is Church just a building? Is it where people come to pray? Does a church have to have stained glass windows and a steeple? Is church better if there are more people and loud singing? What is the purpose of the church, and why should we even go? Do we go to church to give God our best, or do we go to receive God's best in Christ via the Word and Sacraments?

At this Higher Things Retreat, Pastor Matthew Tooman and Pastor Chris Brademeyer will answer these tough questions and more! Finally, Pastor Aaron Filipek will take attendees behind the scenes of the Divine Service, explaining the significance of what is happening. Everything from the albs that a pastor wears to what is happening at the altar during communion and how these everyday things deliver the Lord's gifts to us.

Picture the sanctuary filled with teenagers, eager for the organ to begin the opening lines of the liturgy or their favorite hymns, listening intently as they learn how their Lutheran faith applies to their lives and relationships and laughing as they horse around playing games and getting to know other youth from the area. That's a glimpse of what will happen at this Higher Things Youth Retreat!

The cost is \$50 per person and covers all expenses for the retreat at Immanuel, including all classes, food, activities and lodging at the church. Boys and girls will be housed in separate areas of the church, and attendees should bring sleeping bags and pillows. There are no shower facilities, however, bathrooms are located throughout the church. The retreat will begin at 6 p.m. on Friday, March. 27 and end at 3 p.m. on Saturday, March. 28 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Wahpeton.

Groups are encouraged to pay securely online, however you may bring your payment with you when you arrive for the retreat. To register, download registration forms at www.higherthings.org/retreats or contact Tana McKenna at 888-482-6630 or retreats@higherthings.org. Please RSVP for this retreat by March. 20.

February Youth Events

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

Sunday, Feb. 2 - from 4:30-9 p.m. – Lutheran Youth Fellowship Super Bowl Party for grades 9-12 Wednesday, Feb. 5 - from 7:30-9 p.m. - Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 6-8 Sunday, Feb. 9 - from 5-7 p.m. – Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 9-12 Wednesday, Feb. 12 - from 7:30-9 p.m. - Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 9-12 Wednesday, Feb. 19 - from 7:30-9 p.m. - Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 6-8 Sunday, Feb. 23 - from 5-7 p.m. – Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 9-12 Wednesday, Feb. 26 - from 7:45-9 p.m. - Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 6-8

Upcoming Events:

BSLC Senior High Youth Super Bowl Party - Sunday, Feb. 2: The senior high youth will have a Super Bowl party from 4:30-9 p.m. on Feb. 2. The youth are encouraged to bring their favorite snack to share. A meal will be provided. Contact Pastor Brian with questions.

Family Ski Day - Saturday, Feb. 8: The family ski trip has been rescheduled for 7:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 8. Meet at the BSLC parking lot. We will need drivers to carpool. See Pastor Brian for more information.

Junior High and Senior High Youth Zone Nerf Night - Friday, March 6: Junior and senior high youth and their friends are invited for an evening of games, Bible study, music, food and of course Nerf from 7 p.m. - midnight on March 6 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Fargo. Please bring \$5 to cover the cost of food. Contact Pastor Chris or Pastor Brian with questions.

LYF Retreat in Carrington - Friday, March 6 - Saturday, March 7: All students in 8th through 12th grade are invited to the Chieftain in Carrington. We will meet at BSLC at 3:45 p.m. on Friday and return around 7 p.m. on Saturday. Cost is \$75 which includes Saturday breakfast and pizza lunch buffet, Friday night sleeping room (1-4 people/room) and program costs. Activities include teen-led growth sessions, devotions, concerts, snacks and some meals. Please register by Sunday, March 1. Extra money is needed for dinner on Friday and Saturday. See Pastor Brian with questions.

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

ENLIGHTEN is a

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church.

monthly publication of

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.

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Fargo, ND 58102 Permit No. 1068 Ghost No. 80108

Pastor Chris Waldvogel	Council Members aldvogel			Board of Elders		
701-293-1047 701-893-6995	Chairman:	Denise Doeling	238-1321	A-Bo	Paul Asche	361-6960
	Vice-Chair:	Mike Schlichtmann	552-0380	Br-D	Lloyd Jemtrud	799-7450
Associate Pastor	Treasurer:	Craig Hashbarger	541-0930	E-G	Rich Beaver	371-9077
Brian Shane	Secretary:	Kayla Muehler	899-4504	H-K	Joe Pytlik	261-5943
701-293-1047	Properties:	Vacant		L-N	Mike Sellden	235-5828
314-532-0012	Education:	Bobbi Hestdalen	540-2218	O-R	Adam Tykwinski	793-8170
Administrative Assistant	Stewardship:	Jennifer Krause	287-8627	S	Dave Hohn	205-6881
Kim Scheer	Evangelism:	Tim Deitemeyer	793-2220	T-Z	Scott Persoon	219-0399
701-293-1047				Elders are assigned families based on last name		

RRLSA Board Representatives: Pam Grothman

Mary Seiffert

Ramsey Dahl

Kim Ternes

Beth Gustafson

241-9032

237-9009

793-6517

205-7101

239-9090

Other Volunteers

LWML President:

Financial Secretary:

Choir Director: