



February 2022

Inside this issue:

Confident in Christ's Victory, We Run with Endurance the Race of Faith By Pastor Chris	2
Still Time to Donate to RHH	2
Andes Family Ski Trip	3
Married Couples Bible Study	3
Crosstraining for BSLC Children	3
LWML Prayer Breakfast	3
Sock, Mitten & Hat Donations	3
BSLC Treasurer's Report	3
BSLC Celebrates 40 Years	3
Clubs and Service Groups	4
Easter Flowers on Altar	4
LWML Turns 80 in 2022	4
Baptisms/Deaths	4
Wisdom is Calling By Pastor Brian	5
Main Street Living North	5
GLS News	6
BSLC Sunday School News	6
Crossfire Praise Band	6
LYF Spring Retreat in Carrington	6
Congregational Memory Verses	6
LFL 2022 State Essay Contest	7
January Youth Events	7

Confident in Christ's Victory, We Run with Endurance the Race of Faith

By Pastor Chris

"Therefore, because we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted," (Hebrews 12:1-3).

In 1983, 61-year-old Cliff Young won a five-day, 544-mile "ultra marathon" in Australia.

It wasn't his equipment. Young ran in a pair of cheap running shoes and pants with holes he had cut out himself for ventilation. His technique could only be described as a lumbering shuffle, an approach that left him far behind at the start of the race.

So how did he do it? Young didn't have a professional athlete's training. But his job as a shepherd more than prepared him for the race. Before the event started, Young told reporters: "I grew up on a farm where we couldn't afford horses or tractors, and the whole time I was growing up, whenever the storms would roll in, I'd have to go out and round up the sheep," he said.

(Continued on Page 2.)

National Youth Gathering Attendees Looking for Sponsorship

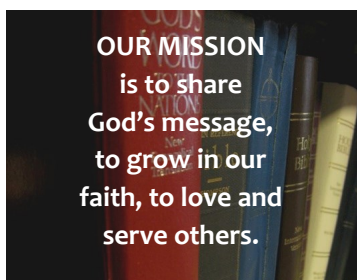


Nine youth will be attending the National Youth Gathering July 9-13 in Houston, TX. Their photos, along with sponsorship envelopes, will be posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. They are looking for sponsors to help them with the costs involved with the gathering.

Members of the congregation can help by taking an envelope off the board and pledging a dollar amount to a youth. Please return your sponsorship envelope in the drop box in the church office by April 3.

National Youth Gathering Fundraiser Looking for Donations

The NYG youth are looking for silent auction items to be donated for an upcoming fundraiser. If you have any items you would be willing to donate, please contact Pastor Brian.



Confident in Christ's Victory, We Run with Endurance the Race of Faith (Continued from Page 1.)

"We had 2,000 sheep on 2,000 acres. Sometimes I would have to run after those sheep for two or three days. It took a long time, but I'd always catch them. I believe I can run this race."

While others ran 18 hours a day and slept six hours a night, Young would continue to shuffle by while others rested. He eventually passed the entire pack while they slept. When Young crossed the finish line, he didn't earn honors in some sort of senior category. He finished 10 hours ahead of the next runner and beat the standing record for running between Sydney and Melbourne by more than two days. When he received his \$10,000 first-place prize, he gave away \$7,000 to other competitors.

More than 2,000 years ago, a surprising candidate won the race for us. The God-man Jesus came as one born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under the law. Where all others failed, Jesus lived in perfect, unbroken obedience to the Father and service toward His neighbor. For his efforts and according to the Father's will, the holy, innocent Son of God suffered brutal scorn, rejection, torture and death in our place. He did so to gather His sheep from far and wide. When he arose in victory and power, He gave the spoils of that victory to all those who would believe in Him. He shared His righteousness, innocence, life, and perfect standing with sinners to be received by faith.

In Chapter 11, the author of the book of Hebrews lists many figures from the Old Testament who received God's promises, believing those promises before they came to fruition, only to see God always deliver what He promised. The lesson is not that their faith made these things come true. It is that their God-given faith trusted God would bring His promises to fulfillment. But when those around us abandon the faith, scorn the faith and deride the faithful, we can lose heart. Our own weakness bids us to quit the race, leave the faith and forget about Jesus.

The author of the Hebrews will have us remember and believe that all of God's promises find their culmination in Jesus, who ran the race, finished the race and now gives that victory to us. It is done. It is finished. It is ours. Therefore, amid hardship, persecution and weakness, we remember what Christ has done for us. Confident in Christ's victory, we run with endurance the race of faith.

Pastor Chris

Still Time to Donate to Restore His House Capital Campaign

We still have approximately \$3,000 to go to reach our three-year capital campaign goal. If you would like to make a donation to the campaign, there is still time. You may donate to the campaign by leaving a check in the offering plate, mail it to the office or donate online through our website. When donating via check, please make sure to note it is for Restore His House capital campaign. To date, we have received \$327,024 out of our \$330,000 goal. We are thankful for all who have donated to the campaign so that we can continue to upgrade our facility.



Upcoming Bible Studies

9:30 a.m. Sunday morning Bible study: "Death, Heaven, Resurrection and the New Creation" - Death is a reality we all must face. Some embrace death as a friend. Others fear it, seeking to avoid it at all costs. But Christians find hope in the Lord Jesus, who overcame the grave. Death has no hold over Jesus, and it will have no hold over you.

Even before the resurrection, Jesus brings us to Himself. In death, Christ becomes our all in all as we live forever in communion with Him. In light of this assurance, we can live this impermanent life in trust and hope.

The promises and victory of Christ will help us appreciate the importance of our physical bodies; approach the experience of dying trusting to Jesus; and consider the nature of our resurrected, glorious bodies in the new heavens and new earth.

7 p.m. Tuesday night Bible study: "Overcoming Life's Sorrows: Learning from Jeremiah" -

This tour of the book of Jeremiah shows us how to find comfort amid life's grief and heartbreaks by pointing us to Jeremiah's reliance on God and ultimately pointing us to Jesus, the real "man of sorrows" and the One in whom all hope and joy are found. Please sign up to receive a copy of the book, which costs \$16. This study will be offered in person and via Zoom. You may enter the meeting manually: Meeting ID: 878 698 0623; Passcode: 497670

9 a.m. Thursday Women's Bible study via Zoom: "Jesus, The Reason" - In this Bible study you are invited to meet Jesus by digging deep into the Bible. You'll discover what Jesus did and said. You'll be encouraged to decide what place Jesus has in your life today. If you would like to join the group, please call Shirley Elsner at 388-9521.

Andes Tower Hills Family Ski Trip

All families should save Saturday, Feb. 26, for some fun on the slopes. We will meet at 7:30 a.m. sharp at the Beautiful Savior parking lot and return by 8:30 p.m. Check-in will be at 9:45 a.m. We will need drivers to carpool. Deadline to register is Feb. 20. Registration and information sheets are available in the narthex, or on the church website. See Pastor Brian with questions.



Married Couple Small Group Bible Study

The married couple small group Bible study will be taking a look at what God's Word has to say about marriage and showing it is still so relevant today! We will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 17. Please see Pastor Brian with any questions.



LWML Prayer Breakfast

All women are invited to attend the 2022 Prayer Breakfast from 9:30 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Feb. 26 at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1000 14th St S, Moorhead. The service is based on Luke 11:1 and will look at various forms of prayer used frequently by believers as we seek to honor Christ with our prayers. RSVP via text or call 218-790-1830.



Crosstraining for BSLC Children



Crosstraining is for children in first through fifth grade. Crosstraining will meet from 1-2:30 p.m. Sunday Feb. 20. Crosstraining will involve food (both spiritual and physical), fun and fellowship. Contact Pastor Brian with any questions.

Sock, Mitten and Hat Donations

Donations of new socks, mittens and hats for adults or children will be taken for a few more weeks due to the cold weather. They can be returned to the baskets under the cross in the narthex. These items will be donated to local schools and to Churches United for the Homeless. A Thrivent grant also will be used to purchase items.

BSLC Treasurer's Report General Operating Fund

<u>Oper. Fund</u>	<u>Dec.</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Contributions	33,019	439,143
Expense	35,311	373,065
Surplus/(Shortfall)	(2,292)	66,078

Beautiful Savior Celebrates 40 Years

The second in a series on the history of BSLC

In 1978, the delegates at the North Dakota Missouri Synod District Convention in Mandan requested that a study should be conducted for improved facilities for the ND LCMS District Office. In 1980, upon completion of that study at the convention in Minot, the District Board of Directors reported that larger facilities were needed for the district office. District officials also believed that God would be glorified and that there was tremendous need and opportunity for a new mission church in south Fargo. The board recommended that the facility serve both. The convention agreed and gave approval for the board to proceed.

Planning and site location of the new facility began in 1980. The current site was selected even though it was in a rural portion of Fargo, surrounded by wheat fields and serviced by a dirt road. The location was ideal, however, due to the anticipated I-94 interchange at 25th Street, the location of existing LCMS churches in Fargo and expected population growth of south Fargo.

Built at a cost of \$400,000, the 6,500 square foot building was constructed. It was designed for energy efficiency with an earthen bermed north wall and passive solar windows on the south side. The building was designed for a mission congregation of about 200+ members. The district would use the south part of the building which is 2,000 square feet and the mission congregation the northern portion of 4,500 square feet. The building was dedicated on Aug. 23, 1981, and is still shared by Beautiful Savior and the ND District.



Clubs and Service Groups



Service Group - Our group for February consists of the letters T-Z with captain Kim Ternes as captain. She will call you asking for treats or help with events. Thanks for your help. Our March group will be the letter A-Bo with captain Andrea Olson.

Elders - Our elders are here every Sunday morning. They greet members and visitors, help the pastors 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 other elders.

Quilting and Fellowship - We meet the second and fourth Thursday of the month. Join us at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 10 and 24. If you have any questions, 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.

Gold Club - Join us for some potluck food, faith and fellowship. Our next get-together will be at noon on Wednesday, Feb. 16. We'll celebrate Valentine's Day, so bring a dish you'd love to share with your friends. Gold Club is for anyone!

Evangelism and Stewardship - The evangelism and stewardship committees will meet at 12:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 21, at Perkins. RSVP the church office by Feb. 17

LWML - We will have our monthly meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 17, in the fellowship hall. All women of BSLC are invited to attend and learn more about the Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

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. There will be limited quantities of each flower, so get your orders in early. Please make checks payable to the LWML.

LWML Turns 80 in 2022

At a meeting held in July 1942, at St. Stephen Lutheran Church, in Chicago, Illinois, the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) was founded by delegates from 15 districts. For 80 years, Lutheran Women in Mission has joyfully proclaimed Christ, supported missions and equipped women to honor God by serving others. As we continue to serve the Lord with gladness, let's celebrate the blessings that the Lord has bestowed on LWML — 80 years of serving Him and those around us!

In thanksgiving for 80 years, reflect on God's love by blessing others with 80 of something, remembering events from the last 80 years, or sharing legacy concepts for carrying forth the LWML mission.

Learn more about "What's Your 80?" at www.lwml.org/80. You will find plenty of ideas and suggestions for sharing "your 80" with us.



Baptisms

Jan. 9 - Mila Rose Hansen, daughter of Travis and Samantha Hansen, born May 25, 2021. Her sponsors are Jon Hart, Alexa Pietig, Hope Schultz and Jonathan Schultz.



Deaths

Jan. 19: George Justin Nerby, 32, passed away. His funeral was at Boulger Funeral Home Jan. 27.

George was born Feb. 3, 1989 to Ron and Lone (Schultz) Nerby in Fargo. He was baptized into Christ at Hickson American Lutheran Church, attended Grace Lutheran School, confirmed at Beautiful Savior and graduated from Fargo South High School. He attended MSCTC in Moorhead, MN, enlisted in the United States Marine Corp and completed many IT jobs for businesses.

George is survived by his parents Ron and Lone, brother Andrew and Marjorie (Laney) Nerby. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Gilbert and Doris (Windjue) Nerby of Grand Forks, and Herbert and Isabelle (Kuefner) Schultz of Alexandria, MN.

Wisdom is Calling

By Pastor Brian

“Wisdom has built her house; she has hewn her seven pillars. She has slaughtered her beasts; she has mixed her wine; she has also set her table. She has sent out her young women to call from the highest places in the town, “Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!” To him who lacks sense she says, “Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. Leave your simple ways, and live, and walk in the way of insight.” (Proverbs 9:1-6).

One of life’s more enjoyable experiences is getting together with friends for dinner. Time spent talking, laughing, and savoring good food is time well spent. In the reading above, Wisdom herself invites you to a feast at a banquet she has prepared for you in a house she has built. This Wisdom that calls to you is the wisdom of God.

Don’t confuse God’s wisdom with worldly wisdom.

Worldly wisdom offers us an impressive-looking banquet of her own. On her table we see advancements in the fields of medicine, technology and engineering. She offers clever advice on how to improve our health and our relationships. These things are of some value here and now, but they can do nothing to help our relationship with God. They can do nothing to solve the problem of death.

We need wisdom that will mean true blessings for us both in this world and the next, wisdom only God can give us. We need God’s Son, our Savior. On His cross, Jesus took our sin and death on himself and secured eternal life for us. By the forgiveness of sins, He won for us, our relationship with God is restored. You can be assured, He paid for you!

“Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways.” (Psalm 119:37).



“Main Street Living North” TV Program News

Love is the theme of Valentine’s Day, celebrated annually in February. Although there are a variety of competing stories for the origin of this day, as Christians, we know the true source of all genuine love is our Creator and Savior, the Triune God! “This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. (1 John 4:10-11).

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!



February pastors and sermons are as follows:

Feb 6: Rev. Paul Preus, Zion Lutheran Church, Ellendale, presents the message: “It Is Good to Hear Jesus,” based on Matthew 17:1-9. *This Is The Life:* “Finders Keepers.”

Feb 13: Rev. Nathanael Biberdorf, Zion Lutheran Church, Browns Valley, MN and Zion Lutheran Church, Claire City, SD presents the message: “Ever-Green Savior,” based on Jeremiah 17:5-8. *This Is The Life:* “Girls Best Friend.”

Feb 20: Rev. Kirk Lee, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Parkers Prairie, MN, presents the message: “I Am Your Brother Joseph,” based on Genesis 45:3-15. *This Is The Life:* “Song of the Night.”

Feb 27 : Rev. Dave Suelzle, Grace Lutheran Church, Fargo, ND, presents the message: “Greater than the ... Greatest?” based on Hebrews 3:3-6. *This Is The Life:* “Hope Enough to Live By.”

Grace Lutheran School News

On Jan. 13, Grace Lutheran School celebrated its seventieth birthday. The school building was dedicated into Christ's service on Jan. 13, 1952, and has been a beacon for the Christian and Lutheran education of thousands of students. We rejoice in this milestone! Our building is strong and plans are already in motion for major improvements. We look forward to "Building it Better" in the years to come.

Let's build it better together on Giving Hearts Day Thursday, Feb. 10 at www.givingheartsdays.org.

Giving Hearts Day is a wonderful community event and an easy way to make the world a better place. Not only will your donation to GLS fund building improvements, but also it opens doors for more students to receive a Christian education. God works in and through our students, and we want to fill the world with them. Scheduled giving is open now. Scan the QR code on this page, or join us on Giving Hearts Day!



Enrollment for the upcoming school year is in full swing. Information was sent to Association families with pre-kindergarteners, kindergarteners, first graders and middle school students. Private tours are always available and we have open houses on Feb. 22, Mar. 15, and April 7, from 5:30-7 p.m.



BSLC Sunday School News

Sunday School Help Needed - We are still looking for help on Sunday mornings for Sunday School. We are looking for teachers or team teachers, substitutes and memory work helpers. If interested, please contact Stacy Knudson, Pastor Brian or the church office.

Crossfire Youth Praise Band

Our youth praise band will lead worship on Sunday, Feb. 27. They will practice at the church from 6-7 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 26 and 7-8 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 6 and 20. If you have questions, call Ramsey at 866-5403.

LYF Spring Retreat in Carrington

All students in eighth through twelfth grade are invited to the Chieftain in Carrington on Friday, March 4 to Saturday, March 5. We will meet at BSLC at 3:45 p.m. on Friday and return around 7 p.m. on Saturday. Cost is \$50, which includes program costs, Friday junk food buffet, Saturday breakfast, pizza lunch buffet and snacks. Friday night sleeping room (one to four people/room) is priced separately.

Activities include teen-led growth sessions, devotions, music, morning walk/run, snacks and some meals. Extra money is needed for dinner on Friday and Saturday. See Pastor Brian with questions.

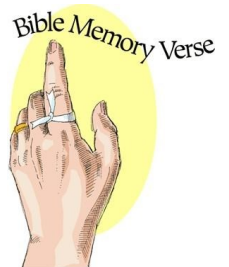
Congregational Memory Verse Challenge

Feb. 6: Psalm 37:5 - Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

Feb. 13: 1 Peter 3:15 - But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.

Feb. 20: Colossians 1:15 - He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

Feb. 27: Psalm 37:23-24 - The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way; though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the Lord upholds his hand.



Lutherans for Life 2022 State Essay Contest

Sponsored by the Council of Federation Presidents

For students in Grades six through twelve - (Any Lutheran student or student in a Lutheran school)

Contest Guidelines: Students will write a life-affirming essay based on the 2022 Conference theme “Blessed for Life” and Psalm 41:2 “... The Lord protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessed in the land; you do not give him up to the will of his enemies.”



Examples of topics the essay could deal with are: abortion, the handicapped, infanticide, cloning, stem cell research, physician assisted suicide or euthanasia.

Essays should include student's name, grade (identify school or church) and email address. All entries submitted by a teacher or pastor should include their name and email address. This information should be submitted on the rubric page used in grading the essay.

All sources for references, statistics and quotes should be incorporated within the essay and then included in a bibliography at the end.

Grades six through eight should submit essays up to 400 words and grades nine through twelve should submit essays up to 750 words.

Each school and church is to select their top pick in each of the two grade levels. These two essay entries should be submitted digitally using Microsoft Word or Google Docs to office@bslcfargo.org by March 27.

State awards are as follows: a first-place prize of \$100 and second-place prize of \$50 will be awarded by our ND State Lutherans for Life to each level. The two first-place winners will be sent to the National Lutherans for Life office.

The grand prize for national winning entry at each level is: \$250 plus free conference registration to the 2022 Regional Conference of their choice and one hotel night at a conference hotel.

All entries become the property of Lutherans For Life.

For questions or resources on the sanctity of life, go to the website lutheransforlife.org.



February Youth Events

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



Wednesday, Feb. 2 - from 7:30-9 p.m. - LYF for grades 6-12.

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

Wednesday, Feb. 16 - from 7:30-9 p.m. - LYF for grades 6-12.

Wednesday, Feb. 23 - from 7:30-9 p.m. - LYF for grades 6-12.

Family Ski Day - Saturday, Feb. 26: All families should save the date of Saturday, Feb. 26, for some time on the slopes. We will meet at 7:30 a.m. sharp at the Beautiful Savior parking lot and return around 8:30 p.m. or so. Check-in will be at 9:45 a.m. We will attempt to carpool but will need drivers as well. Deadline is Feb. 20. Registration and information sheets are available in the narthex, on the church website or see Pastor Brian for more information.

LYF Retreat in Carrington - Friday, March 4 - Saturday, March 5: All students in eighth through twelfth 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 \$50 which includes which includes program costs, Friday junk food buffet, Saturday breakfast, pizza lunch buffet and snacks. Friday night sleeping room (one to four people/room) is priced separately. Activities include teen-led growth sessions, devotions, snacks and some meals. Please register by Sunday, Feb. 27. 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:

Sunday at 8:15 a.m. & 10:45 am 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

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58102
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Ghost No. 80108**

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701-293-1047

701-893-6995

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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: Scott Persoon 219-0399

Education: Stacy Knudson 306-4302

Stewardship: Claudia Schroeder 361-0570

Evangelism: Tim Deitemeyer 793-2220

Board of Elders

A-Bo Paul Asche 361-6960

Br-D Dale Olson 238-1029

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 Kurt Mathiason 220-4906

T-Z Chris Speelmon 799-7804

Elders are assigned families based on last name

Other Volunteers

LWML President: Mary Seiffert 212-3712

Choir Director: Ramsey Dahl 866-5403

RRLSA Board Representatives: Randy Johnson 200-6523

Kim Ternes 205-7101

Financial Secretary: Beth Gustafson 239-9090

ENLIGHTEN is a monthly publication of Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church.