



January 2019

#### Inside this issue:

Baptisms	2
Deaths	2
Bible Studies	2
Restore His House Update	3
ND District Men's Retreat	3
2019 Commitment Cards	3
BSLC Food Pantry Needs	3
2019 Altar Flower Sign-up	3
Treasurer's Report	3
Voter's Meeting Update	3
Clubs and Service Groups	4
LWML News	4
Munchies for Missions	4
Christmas Tea	4
Caroling at Bethany	4
A Fresh Start By Vicar Brian	5
Main Street Living	5
2018 Poinsettia List	6
GLS News	7
Crossfire Praise Band	7
January Youth News	7



## Amid shutdowns, God never stops

By Pastor Chris

In a move we come to expect with alarming frequency, the Federal Government went into partial shutdown mode at the end of 2018 as the president and Congress hash out details for a funding agreement. The shutdown has hit people where they live, forcing hundreds of thousands of federal workers and contractors to stay home or work without pay and limiting varied public services.

Fargo also entered shutdown mode in late December – not because of political maneuvering but after a winter storm dumped a foot of snow here. The shutdown hit people where they live: stores, services and restaurants closed their doors, leaving many scrambling.

Sometimes, because of our fallen sinful nature, we enter shutdown mode as well. There are times when we don't or can't provide proper care for those around us. An extreme example made recent headlines when a Texas woman received a 40-year prison sentence in the death of her two children.

(Continued on Page 2.)

## New Bibles Grace Pews at Beautiful Savior

You may have noticed new Bibles in the pews. Several large print Bibles were purchased through the undesignated memorial donation fund. New Bibles will also be placed in the classrooms and on a cart for Bible studies. There are a few extra-large print Bibles available in the back of the sanctuary. Please let an usher know if one is needed.

In addition to the Bibles, new choral risers were also purchased. They were debuted in the cantata as well as the children's Christmas programs. They will be used for future choral performances at BSLC.

## Help is Needed Taking Down Decorations

We will take down the Christmas decorations at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 5. Please join us. It will only take an hour.

## Andes Tower Hills Family Ski Trip

All families should save the date of Saturday, Jan. 12, for some time on the slopes. We will meet at 7:30 a.m. sharp at the Beautiful Savior parking lot and return at 8:30 p.m. or so. Check-in will be at 10 a.m. We will need drivers to carpool. Deadline to register is Jan. 4. Registration and information sheets are available in the narthex or see Vicar Brian.



## Amid shutdowns, God never stops

(Continued from page 1.)

According to testimony, the young mother went to a party, leaving her kids for at least 10 hours without food or water in her car. (You and I cannot render God's judgment here, for under the law, we all have fallen short of loving our neighbor as self.)

But a shutdown has never been part of God's care for us. Systems don't limit Him. Extreme weather won't keep our Lord from acting. His compassion never fails or waivers. The Psalmist puts it this way: "I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep," (Psalm 121:1-4).

So many people look to governments, systems, families and other institutions to provide for them in many and various ways. Although God does work through these means, He does not save through them. As the season of Epiphany approaches, the Scriptures focus our attention on Jesus as the full expression of God's saving love.

Through Christ's suffering, death and resurrection, God has forgiven our sins. He has brought us into His Kingdom. He will not let death or sin or the devil take us from Him. The Lord, our Shepherd, risen in glory and ruling and reigning for all eternity, will never let us slip through the cracks; He promises to watch over us, now and always.

Amid all these shutdowns, God's perfect love in Christ continues to bring us joy and peace all year through!



*Pastor Chris*

## Baptisms



**Dec. 23:** Asher Monte Scott Stasch, son of Kara Fibrantz and Matthew Stasch born Nov. 29, 2018. His sponsors were Jessica Lande, Dakota Birch, Megan Birch and Kayla Quinn.

## Deaths

Dec. 16: Mildred Stout, 91, Moorhead, passed away. Her funeral was at Wright Funeral Home on Dec. 21. Mildred was a member at BSLC and is survived by her daughter Diane Berggren, also a member at BSLC.

## In Appreciation

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our church family for all the kindness shown to us during the Christmas season. We appreciated all your prayers, cards, cookies, gifts and expressions of love. We feel blessed to have all of you in our lives. May God continue to bless our work here.

Pastor Chris, Vicar Brian and Kim

## 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" -**

The last Advent of the Savior lesson, which is about Epiphany, will conclude on Thursday, Jan. 3. A new Bible study on "Angels" will begin on Thursday, Jan. 10. Do angels really have wings? Do they protect people from harm? In eight Bible lessons 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. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex.

## Restore His House Capital Campaign

There has been more than \$257,000 of the \$330,000 goal committed so far for this three year effort. Thank you and keep those pledges coming in!



## 2019 Commitment Cards

Remember to turn in your annual pledge card for the 2019 year. This helps you plan your giving and helps the congregation plan for our ministry and missions for the year. It's also a great time to consider how you have been blessed and how you can share those blessings with the church so we can continue, and even expand, our ministry. Thank you to all who already turned in their cards. If you need a commitment card, you can pick one up in the narthex.

## BSLC Food Pantry Needs

The food pantry at Beautiful Savior is in need of cereal, pasta, canned fruit, vegetables, tuna, peanut butter and macaroni and cheese. Please leave the items in the church office. Thank you for helping to restock our shelves.

## Offering Envelopes

Offering Envelopes for 2019 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.

### BSLC Treasurer's Report General Operating Fund

<u>Operating Fund</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Contributions	\$22,500	290,150
Expense	24,245	314,530
(Shortfall)	<b>(1,745)</b>	<b>(24,380)</b>

## ND District Men's Winter Retreat

The retreat will be held Jan. 25-26, 2019, at Shepherd's Hill at the Crossroads, St. John, ND. Rev. Daniel Suelzle, Wittenberg Lutheran Chapel at UND, will present "*Misquoted: Things the Bible Doesn't Say*." It begins with a supper at 6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 25, and ends at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26. The cost is \$80, which includes three meals, lodging, speaker and fellowship activities. Bring your Bible, bed roll, personal items, warm clothing, and friends. Call Corey Isaak to register at 281-0240 or email at [corey.isaak@gracefargo.org](mailto:corey.isaak@gracefargo.org).



"The First Light" Christmas Cantata was held Dec. 19. during the midweek Advent worship service.

## 2019 Altar Flower Sign-up Chart

Sign up for a bouquet in memory or honor of a loved one. The 2019 flower chart is outside the office on the bulletin board. Cost is \$20, 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 office.

## Voters' Meeting Update

The voters' meeting was held on Sunday, Dec. 9 between services. Reports were given from various boards. The 2019 financial budget was approved. Discussion was held on how tuition subsidies is currently handled for our members with children at GLS and options for how BSLC's donation to GLS' tuition program could change in the future. The GLS tuition subsidy vote was tabled for a future meeting.



## Clubs and Service Groups



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

**Elder** - Our Elders for January are Scott Persoon and Lloyd Jemtrud. 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 Scott and Lloyd 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, so feel free to join us for food, faith and fellowship. Bring a dish or treat to share and join us at noon Wednesday, Jan. 16.

**Quilting and Fellowship** - Quilting will resume at 9 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 10 and 24. 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.

### Address and Phone Number Changes

If you have moved, dropped your landline or have a new phone number, please let the church office know. You can call, email or leave a note in the church office with the new information. Thank you.

## LWML News

We will meet at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 17. All women are invited to join. If you can't attend every meeting, you are still welcome to come as it fits your schedule. There are lots of activities coming up. 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.

**Munchies for Missions Thank You** - LWML would like to thank everyone from BSLC who donated goodies and/or purchased goodies at the bake sale. The project was a huge success, and we couldn't have done it without our wonderful BSLC members! The proceeds are designated to go to LWML mites, which fund mission projects throughout North Dakota and the world. A total of \$826.00 will be given to mites! Praise the Lord! Visit our LWML website at <http://beautifulsaviorfargo.com/lwml/> to learn more about mites and mission projects.

**Christmas Tea Thank You** - There are so many people to thank for the success of the Christmas Tea. Our planning committee members were Maggie Stende, Karen Mart-Taverna, Dahlia Shane, Jodi Haekenkamp, Kay Osman, Kim Scheer and Mary Seiffert. Our master of ceremonies was Matt Gustafson. Lori Pytlik arranged to have the Oak Grove Carolers from Oak Grove High as our entertainment for the evening. Our all-men servers proved that they are more than just handsome faces. Thrivent also contributed funds to help cover expenses. Our guests took time from their busy schedules to attend our event and generously gave to the CCRI - Build 4 the Guys mission. Thank you to those who donated and bid on items for the silent auction. The LWML is sending CCRI—Build 4 the Guys a check for \$1,890.21, which will help to build a new home for the four guys who have lived together for the past 10 years.

**Caroling at Bethany** - A small but joyful group of carolers had a joyful time on Sunday, Dec. 16, visiting Bethany on 42nd. Many thanks to those who sang: Mike, the Krause family, Brian and Caitlin, Carol, Marlene and Mary for joining in on the fun. It was a blessing to get out to spread joy to all the people.



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## A Fresh Start

By Vicar Brian

The new year is here!! I'm quite certain that most of us would like to make 2019 the best year yet. But what would that look like? We may not all agree what would make 2019 the best year yet, but I'm certain that we would all agree that God's Word is what's best for everyone.

God's Word can and does change lives. It changes hearts and minds by the power of the Holy Spirit. That's why Baptism isn't simple water only. We don't just sprinkle water on a baby and say some nice words and hope for the best. We apply the water **with** the Word. The Holy Spirit brings that child to faith even as an infant. Yes, that is the miracle of baptism.

That is where you got your fresh start. When you come to church and confess your sins and receive the absolution, you get another fresh start. But you can get a fresh start **daily** too. One way is to daily spend time in God's Word. Read the Gospels, Acts and Romans - those six books are amazing.

I know, that life is busy and finding the time is a challenge. But which do you think might be more beneficial? An extra 15 minutes of sleep or 15 minutes in God's Word. Additionally, consider what some famous people in history have said about the Bible.

- George Washington: "It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible."
- John Quincy Adams: "So great is my veneration of the Bible, that the earlier my children begin to read it, the more confident will be my hope that they will prove useful citizens of their country and respectable members of society."
- Woodrow Wilson: "I ask every man and woman in this audience that from this day on they will realize that part of the destiny of America lies in their daily perusal of this great Book."
- Douglas McArthur: "Believe me, sir, never a night goes by, be I ever so tired, but I read the Word of God before I go to bed."

If you don't already, make a fresh start with some quiet time spent in God's Word. Make it a good daily habit to begin and/or end each day. "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness," (Lamentations 3:22-23). The best fresh start we can make is knowing that Christ gave it to us in his death and resurrection.

Happy new year!! Together let's make 2019 the best one yet with a fresh start.



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## "Main Street Living North" TV Program News

We are now entering year three of Main Street Living North media ministry! We lift our thankful hearts to our Lord and Savior for blessing this ministry addition to the Minnesota North and North Dakota Districts of our LCMS! We also give special thanks to our production crew members Jay Schaefer and DCE Ryan Avery for their many hours of dedicated work! Sadly, we bid Ryan farewell as he has accepted a call to serve in the Michigan District. We'll miss you, Ryan!

We thank all of the congregations and members who have supported MSLN financially during our first two years! Our main expenses are the weekly broadcasting costs. With the expansion to the western half of North Dakota, we also thank the Main Street Living Network for providing matching funds of up to \$16,000 for new donations made! 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!

January pastors and sermons are as follows:

Jan. 6: Rev. Lester Wolfram, Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Bismarck, presents the message: "A Light For Our Dark World" based on Matthew 2:1-12. This Is The Life program is "*A Friend In Deed*."

Jan. 13: Rev. Kevin Zellers, Messiah Lutheran Church, Mandan, presents the message: "Theophany of God" based on Luke 3:15-22. This Is The Life program is "*God of Love*."

Jan. 20: Rev. Brandon Woodruff, Peace Lutheran Church, Garrison, and St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Max, delivers today's message: "Signs" based on John 2:1-11. This Is The Life program is "*Adrift*."

Jan. 27: Rev. Thomas Marcis, Zion Lutheran Church, Bismarck, presents the message: "Jesus' Opening Address" based on Luke 4:21. This Is The Life program is "*The Hand of God*."

## 2018 Christmas Poinsettias

### **Poinsettia Placed by:**

Ruth Bunkowske

Randy, Amanda, Ava and Brayden Johnson  
Karen Mart Taverna  
Brian, Rochelle, Davis, Brett and Ellie Rieck  
Abby and Leah Tykwinski  
Craig and Sherri Hashbarger

Dave & Kim Scheer  
Mike and Mardi Schlichtmann  
Don and Pam Hartwig

Harvey Medenwaldt  
Joan Fiechtner  
Pat Ensrud  
Sue and Steve Buth  
Rich and Virginia Beaver

Tim and Tina Deitemeyer  
Al and Donna Larson and Don and Diane McCabe

Don and Claudia Schroeder  
Joe and Lori Pytlik and boys

Chuck Hoge  
Teresa and Shawn Driscoll  
Kim Ternes  
Craig and Jean Berard

Sharon and Larry Haarstad

Berglind family  
Shirley Elsner  
Lynn and Arla Strege

### **Poinsettia Placed by:**

Craig and Jean Berard

Joe and Lori Pytlik

Mike and Judy Sellden  
Glen and Jodi Haekenkamp  
Mark and Kay Osman  
Sue and Steve Buth  
Danny and Diane Lee  
Janet Koppinger  
Teresa and Shawn Driscoll

### **Poinsettia Placed by:**

Maggie and Gary Stende  
Mike and LeAnn Herrmann  
Gene and Denise Doeling  
Shayla and Kyle Loecker  
Mary Seiffert

### **In Loving Memory of:**

Paul Bunkowske, husband  
Pam Swenson, daughter  
Gary Halverson, Amanda's dad  
My husband, Stephen  
Larry Rieck  
Grandpa Glenn Hubrig  
Neil Hashbarger  
Elaine Ames  
David Jr.  
Eugene Paulsrud  
Kevin Hartwig  
Brian Hartwig  
Bev Medenwaldt  
Gerry Fiechtner, husband  
Rodney Ensrud  
Landon, grandson  
Doreen, Rich's first wife  
Mark, Rich's son  
Our parents  
Charlie, Tina's mom  
Alfred and Roiene Kuska  
Dennis Kuska  
Our parents  
Loren Thalmann  
Great Grandparents  
My dad  
Shane Driscoll, son  
Duane Matzke, father  
LaMoine Sonnenberg  
Shirley Berard  
Margaret and Matt Winkels  
Loretta and Peder Haarstad  
Bud Berglind  
Bruce Elsner  
Our parents

### **In Honor of:**

Ruby Sonnenberg  
Sid Berard  
Leon and Marleen Pytlik  
Janice Thalmann  
Our children  
Our parents  
Our children  
Our grandchildren: Ari, Andrew, A.J. & Matthew  
Our family  
GLS families - past & present  
Jessica, Jocelyn and Jillian, daughters

### **In Thanksgiving of:**

Our children and grandsons  
Our parents and children  
20 Blessed years of marriage  
Family and friends  
My dad

You may take your poinsettias home any time. There are bags to wrap them up in the narthex.



## Grace Lutheran School News

**Calling all parents of 3 and 4 year olds** - GLS is interested in bringing back their preschool. GLS believes in the education of the whole child: academic, social, physical, emotional, creative and spiritual. Our staff is a group of dedicated professionals who value the opportunity to contribute to the Christian education and fulfillment of our students. Please take a moment to complete a short survey to show your interest!  
[www.surveymonkey.com/r/NSJDMRT](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NSJDMRT)

**Annual Grace Auction, March 23, 2019** - The committee is looking for volunteers to help procure donations, decorations, setting up the ballroom, working on class projects and finding items to highlight and promote our school. To help, contact Dinah Sommerfeld at 212-0072 or call the school office for more information.

**PTL Winter Carnival, Jan. 26** - Kicks off Lutheran Education Week Jan. 26-Feb. 1.

**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 Grace Lutheran School.

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

## Crossfire Youth Praise Band

Youth praise band will practice 7-8 p.m. on Jan. 6, 13, 20 and 26. Crossfire will play at the 8:15 a.m. worship service on Jan. 27. If you have questions, call Ramsey Dahl at 866-5403.

## LCEF Scholarships

\$1,000 LCEF Scholarship will be awarded to a graduating high school senior or current full-time post-secondary student at an accredited institution with at least one year remaining. Candidates must also be members of a congregation belonging to the LCMS located in one of the following LCMS districts: Iowa East, Iowa West, Minnesota North, Minnesota South, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, North Wisconsin, South Dakota or South Wisconsin. Application deadline is Jan. 31, 2019. More details and application available at [lcefcentral.org/scholarships](http://lcefcentral.org/scholarships).

## Sunday School Substitutes Needed

We are looking for a few more substitute teachers and volunteers to assist in classrooms. We are also looking for someone to listen to the kids recite memory work. Please let Bobbi Hestdalen or Vicar Brian know if you would be willing to help out.

## January Youth Events

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

**Sunday, Jan. 6** - from 5-7 p.m. – Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 9-12

**Wednesday, Jan. 9** - from 7:30-9 p.m. Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 6-8

**Sunday, Jan 13** - from 5-7 p.m. – Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 9-12

**Wednesday, Jan. 16** - from 7:30-9 p.m. Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 6-8

**Sunday, Jan. 20** - from 5-7 p.m. – Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 9-12

**Wednesday, Jan. 23** - from 7:30-9 p.m. Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 6-8

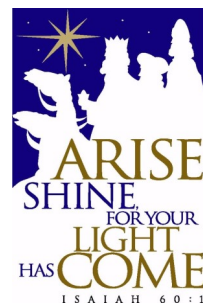
**Sunday, Jan. 27** - from 5-7 p.m. – Lutheran Youth Fellowship for grades 9-12

**Wednesday, Jan. 30** - 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.

**Family Ski Day Saturday, Jan. 12:** All families should save the date of Saturday, Jan. 12, 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 10 a.m. We will attempt to carpool but will need drivers as well. Deadline is Jan. 4. Registration and information sheets are available in the narthex or see Vicar Brian for more information.



# 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

## 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  
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58102  
Permit No. 1068  
Ghost No. 80108**

## CHURCH STAFF

### Pastor

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

### Vicar

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:	Chuck Hoge	306-2375
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	Nathan Gannon	205-4606
L-N	Mike Sellden	235-5828
O-R	Adam Tykwinski	793-8170
S	Dave Hohn	
T-Z	Scott Persoon	219-0399

*Elders are assigned families based on last name*

## Other Volunteers

LWML President:	Mary Seiffert	241-9032
Education Director:	Bobbi Hestdalen	540-2218
Choir Director:	Ramsey Dahl	237-9009
RRLSA Board Representatives:	Kim Persoon	373-5061
	Kim Ternes	205-7101
Financial Secretary:	Beth Gustafson	239-9090

## THIS PUBLICATION

ENLIGHTEN is a monthly publication of Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church.