

July 2013

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Gifts



"Oh what a beautiful morning,
Oh what a beautiful day."

Pastor Dave Wagner



These words come from a song in the musical "Oklahoma." Now, I don't know if you have heard them sung recently, but my wife has. Already several times this summer, I have broke out singing those words. Although my wife doesn't always appreciate how I sound, Kim has thoroughly enjoyed some magnificent days this year. I pray that you have appreciated the good days that we have had as well. But as we delight in the good weather, my hope is that you would also acknowledge the One who is behind all we receive and would respond to it with thanks.

In the book of James (1:17) we read: "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights." This passage reminds us that every good thing is a gift from God. This is profound.

(Continued on page 2)

Minot Flood Recovery Volunteers Needed



Minot continues to need volunteers for flood recovery. Hope Village, hopevillagend.org, is a unified faith-based organization that screens applicants, provides volunteers and assigns projects. They have a "campus" near St. Mark's Lutheran church, a sister LCMS church in Minot, where they provide housing and meals for volunteers for a small fee.

BSLC would like to send teams of six to Minot, leaving on Wednesday night, July 10, to work three days, returning to Fargo on Saturday afternoon. Another group of six could leave here on Thursday night, working two days and also return on Saturday. Youth must have completed ninth grade unless accompanied by a parent.

There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex or talk to Mike Schlichtmann if you have questions. Mike attended last year and it was a great experience.

"Loose Change" Sunday June 30

This Sunday is "Loose Change" Sunday so please bring your mite boxes to church so those coins can be sent on to ND and national projects.



The ND Mite Goal is \$67,000. National LWML has paid out more than \$1,825,000 to mission grants this past year and new mission projects to support will be chosen during the LWML convention in Pittsburgh that is finishing up today.



Coffee and snacks
will be served in
the fellowship hall
between worship
services all
summer.

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

Gifts

(Continued from page 1)

Each morning we wake to a world that is given by God. This is true regardless of what type of weather we are experiencing. God shares who He is and what He makes with us. He shares His love and His salvation. We confess that the Lord is not just maker of heaven and earth, not just the revealer of truth, or not just architect of salvation, we also confess He is the constant giver of all we need to support our bodies and lives.

In light of this, we don't have to be anxious. In a world where God's gifts relating to spiritual salvation and physical provision are constantly being given to us, it frees us to truly appreciate them and be thankful for them.

Our thankfulness can be shown in many ways. However, there are two that I would encourage you to remember. First of all, our gratitude for receiving every good and perfect gift from God can be expressed as we praise God and regularly worship Him with other Christians. Secondly, our thankfulness can be expressed by sharing what God has given to us with others. We imitate God by giving gifts. We do this by using what we have (our abilities, time and money) to support our families, to be good neighbors, to make a positive influence in our world and to carry on God's kingdom work through our church. In light of God's giving, I believe each of us should have the goal of being generous givers-just like our heavenly Father.

At the beginning of this article, I mentioned that I sometimes give my wife the gift of a song on a beautiful day. I have no idea if you have or ever will do that. But whether it is through a song, a smile, an act of kindness, a word of praise, or through giving, I pray that your appreciation for what God has done for you may be evident every day of your life.



Pastor Dave

Remember Your Pledge This Summer

As you enjoy the summer and take time to relax and travel, we ask you to remember honoring the Lord through your weekly offerings for the support of our ministry. As always, there is a need as we continue to carry on our Lord's mission and your gifts of money are appreciated. If you are not able to make it to worship on Sunday, we encourage you to mail or drop off your offering to the church office.



*"Honor the Lord with your substance and with the first fruits of all your income."
(Proverbs 3:9)*

"God has Created Me and All that Exists"

A Look at our Creator and Creation

Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

There are two radically divergent views about our origins in our culture today. One is purely materialistic. It maintains that the physical universe is all that exists. The other view is theistic. Its view holds that there is something beyond the physical universe, something spiritual. The Bible affirms the created world. It also declares that this world came into being through the work of a loving God who not only made the world, but who also redeemed the World through His Son. We invite you to join us in this study as we explore our Creator.



New Women's Bible Study

All BSLC women are invited to attend our new summer women's Bible study that will start in July. Our evening group will begin at 5:30 p.m., Monday, July 8, and our morning group will begin at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, July 11. Pick the day and time that works better for you. Take time for yourself this summer to let His word refresh you.



A Special Thank You From Brad Bartz

Dear Pastors Wagner, Waldvogel
and BSLC members,

After six long years, I have finally finished my collegiate career at Concordia University, St. Paul, and will soon be receiving my degree in Christian Ministries. I would like to thank you all for the incredible amounts of support that I have received throughout my time at college. It is because of this church that I chose to enter into full-time ministry work, and I would not be the person that I am today without all the encouragement from the leadership and membership of the church.

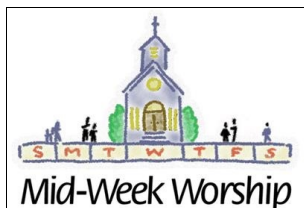
Once again, I cannot imagine where I would be without the guidance provided at BSLC, and I will never be able to fully repay the kindness and support shown to me by the entire congregation. Thank you and God bless.

Bradley Martin Bartz



Wednesday Evening Worship

Summer can mean a lot of traveling on weekends for family gatherings, weddings, vacations and other fun events. But such events may keep you from attending church on Sundays. Keep Christ in your life each week by coming to our worship held at 7 p.m. every Wednesday in July and August until school starts.



Stewardship Thoughts



In July we celebrate the freedom that we enjoy as Americans. For example, we enjoy the freedom of religion. That is a great blessing but, unfortunately, many people live as though freedom of religion means "freedom from religion." We know better. Freedom is not so much "from" as it is "for." And freedom is a gift that comes at a great cost. We do well to remember as Americans that our freedom was gained originally and is still being defended by those who have put their lives on the line so that we might remain free.

It is a disgrace to enjoy our freedom without being thankful for the sacrifice that has made our freedom a reality. This is true not only of our freedom as Americans, but also of our freedom as Christians. We know that Jesus Christ shed His lifeblood as the sacrifice for our sins so that through faith in Him we have the forgiveness of sins which leads to real life and salvation. Our freedom from sin, death and everlasting condemnation is a gift-pure and simple. It is not anything that can be earned. Only Jesus Christ, the sinless Son of God, could earn that freedom. We thank God that His love for us was so great that He was willing to suffer all, even death, so that we might live in freedom, peace and hope.

Unfortunately, some Christians seem to live as if the freedom that Christ won for us is a "freedom from" rather than a "freedom for." St. Paul spoke so eloquently against this false notion when he penned these words in Galatians 5:13-14:

You, my brothers were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

The truth is that we have been freed from the desire to use our life, including our gifts of time, talent and treasure, in a purely selfish way. As Christian stewards we recognize that God is the Owner of all things and we are managers. Good managers use that which belongs to the Owner according to His intents. A Lutheran leader of the past century said it so well: "Christian stewardship is everything I do after I say I believe."

May God help us, His freed people, to use all of life and life's resources for His purposes. This is our proper response to the extravagant love and amazing grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. To do any less is to deny Who and Whose we are!

"Maturing stewards do the right things for the right reasons and strive for excellence in all they do!"

Deaths

Harriet Olson passed away May 23, 2013. She leaves behind a daughter and three sons, 13 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and 5 great-great-grandchildren. Her funeral was at West Funeral Home on June 6 and burial was at Sunset Memorial Gardens, Fargo.



BSLC Coffee Club



Our BSLC members meet at 9 a.m. on Fridays at Village Inn on the corner of 32nd Avenue South and 25th Street, Fargo. This time of fellowship is to get to know other BSLC members and is for both men and women of any age. Stop in when you can.

Coupons for the Military

Please clip coupons and sort them by the month that they will expire. Please bring them to the drawer by the LWML kiosk and put them in the correct file by month. Thank you!

Save Your Used Stamps

Please bring in your used stamps –don't cut them off but bring in the envelopes and place in drawer marked STAMPS by the LWML kiosk. Monies received for these goes to missions.

Rent a Youth

Need some extra hands around the house or yard? Rent a youth! The youth at Beautiful Savior are available to help out with various tasks, including yard work, cleaning and moving assistance, among other jobs. Suggested rate is \$10 an hour per youth. All proceeds will go toward activities such as mission trips and the 2013 LCMS National Youth Gathering. To rent a youth, please call Pastor Chris at 293-1047 or 893-6995.



Thank you to ...

Thanks to all of you that sponsored Tim and Tina Deitemeyer in the FirstChoice Clinic Golf Marathon!

On June 4, Tim and Tina completed 109 holes of golf and raised \$3,140 which will go to FirstChoice Clinic to help put life first with vulnerable pregnancies and to promote health and well-being for young families. Total raised for the Clinic from the event was more than \$50,000!



Thank you to all those who helped out with VBS this year! From our leaders to our kitchen crew to all the kids that came, it was a good time. We averaged 75 kids attending our VBS each night. We also thank the congregation for their donations this year. You all helped make our 2013 "Kingdom Rock" a great success!

Gold Club Lunch

Noon on Wednesday, July 17

If you are age 55 and older and/or retired, please join other BSLC members at a noon potluck on Wednesday, July 17. It's a great time to try a new recipe or use some of your garden produce for the potluck lunch and to enjoy some fellowship with other BSLC members.



July Quilting

A quilting day is planned from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday, July 18. Bring a sewing machine and material if you can. All ages are welcome.

Harlan and Esther Wallum Scholarship Fund



Are you thinking about where you or your children may go for college? Consider one of our LCMS universities. Grants are available to assist youth and adults who wish to begin, continue or advance their education from an LCMS university or seminary. Applications are available in the church office.



Nothing brings out the Old Adam like dodge ball. When the whistle blows, our sinful instincts kick into high gear: Kill or be killed! Every person for him or herself, especially should things go downhill!

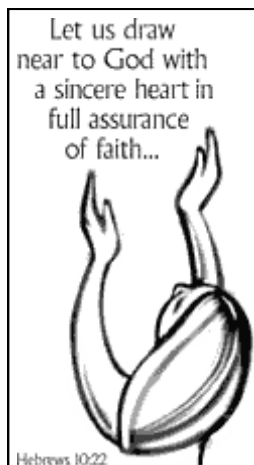
I'm convinced Darwin stumbled on the idea of survival of the fittest after watching a bout of dodge ball.

Today, the life of faith may feel a lot like dodge ball. Increasingly, the world takes aim at the faithful, hurling all sorts of attacks in hopes of knocking back Christianity with the eventual goal of eliminating it entirely.

The team gunning for you seems to sport increasing numbers and strength. They poke and prod: "Do you really expect to survive this onslaught? You are dead meat!"

As we endure the attacks, our Old Adam might be tempted to throw its hands up in surrender. Our Old Adam, by the way, is inherently hostile to God, or at best, indifferent. But without God, the life to come is a hellish free-for-all, an existence where it truly is every person for him or herself – a profound torment in broken relationships for all eternity: nothing but weeping and gnashing of teeth. That's not where God wants people – and for good reason!

The Holy Spirit proclaims that our God has won salvation through Christ's death and resurrection. Although the battle still rages, the attacks still come and the dodge balls still fly, we have hope as God descends to us in worship with His gifts of forgiveness and faith through Word and Sacrament. The writer to the Hebrews writes: "Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water," (Hebrews 10:22).



Worship connects you to a community of fellow Christians, buried with Christ by virtue of baptism into death so the body of sin might be done away with and we might walk in the newness of life that Christ freely gives. Worship, therefore, becomes a necessary element in the life of the Christian, who is constantly beset on every side by bombarding attacks – some from without, some from within.

Think of that poor last dodge ball player taking heavy fire as a lone target. For the life of the believer, as you endure attacks without support and encouragement, your Old Adam may forget that Jesus has won the war and abandon the life of faith all together. If this happens, your enemies win the day as they clock you with the dodge ball of death!

But Jesus has deflated the dodge ball of death. In fact, he's broken it entirely. In light of what God has done, the author of the letter to the Hebrews urges Christians to gather as a community, building one another up and encouraging one another. The community doesn't save you. Only Jesus can do that. But the community of faith walks together in Jesus, lifts others up in Jesus, encourages others in Jesus. The community rallies around broken, fallen people -- not with an every person for him or herself mentality, but centered on witness, mercy and life together in Jesus Christ as means to bring people to where the Holy Spirit speaks God's truth, changes hearts and works faith.

Remember: "Let us hold unswervingly to the faith we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see The Day (Christ's return) approaching," (Hebrews 10:23-25).

Pastor Chris

National Youth Gathering

LCMS Church's largest event brings 25,000 youth, young adults to San Antonio for worship, education, service opportunities

ST. LOUIS, June 24, 2013—"Live Love[d]," the 12th triennial National LCMS Youth Gathering, begins Monday in San Antonio. The Gathering, which is The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's single largest event, brings together young people between the ages of 14-19 to spend time in worship, learning and service.

In total, some 25,000 participants will attend, including youth, young adults, volunteers, exhibitors and special guests. They represent 49 states and 14 countries, including Botswana, China, Finland, Germany, India, Nigeria, Pakistan and Slovakia.

"The National LCMS Youth Gathering provides young people and adults the opportunity to come together as a community of God's people to be affirmed in their faith," said the Rev. Terry Dittmer, director, LCMS Youth Ministry, which oversees the triennial event. "Through worship, studies of God's Word, prayer, song and service, young people have the opportunity to learn more about God, Christianity and their Lutheran identity and to celebrate their salvation in Jesus Christ through Word and Sacrament."



Based on 1 John 4:9, the theme "Live Love[d]," provides the thematic and theological focus for the event. The Scripture reads: "This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him" (NIV).



"The theme speaks to the confidence we have in the Gospel and how Christ's living sacrifice gives life to those who believe," said Rev. Mark Kiessling, program director of the Gathering for the LCMS. "This gift of life is secured in our heavenly home and brings us into fellowship and acts of service in our present world."

Over the course of the five-day event, Gathering participants will experience hands-on activities, high impact speakers and performers, and meaningful learning opportunities. They also will participate in collecting a special offering to bring to the Gathering. This year's offering, expected to reach more than \$250,000, will support community service projects in San Antonio, ongoing domestic and international outreach efforts among young people, the Lutheran Malaria Initiative and a legacy gift to the LCMS Southern District for ongoing rebuilding in New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

"The offering is one way to express our thankfulness to God for the blessings He has provided as participants prepare for the spiritual experience of the Gathering," said Dittmer.

Major events, including the Worship service and Mass Events, will be streamed live via the Gathering website. Visit www.lcmsgathering.com for a complete schedule.

Changes in Your Life?

Have you gone from a land line to cell phones? Are you moving this summer? Do you have a new e-mail address? Please let the church office know of your changes so correspondence from the church will still be received by you. The church pays out money for all returned mail. Thank you for keeping the church updated!



Weekly E-mail Updates

Do you get the church's weekly update via e-mail? On Thursdays a short blurb is e-mailed out to our members to keep them informed of upcoming events. If you are not getting our blurbs, please let the office know your e-mail address. You can also get the church newsletter via e-mail.



Church Picnic

11a.m.–2 p.m. Sunday, July 21

Mark your calendars now to attend our church picnic! It will be held after the second worship service on Sunday, July 21, here at the church. Please bring a dish to share. The church will furnish grilled hot dogs and hamburgers, along with coffee, juice and water. There will be games for everyone and gives BSLC members a chance to visit and to get to know one another. See you there!



Youth Leave for National Youth Gathering

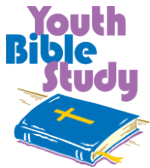
Thanks to everyone at Beautiful Savior for your support of our fund-raisers. Nine BSLC youth will leave for the gathering in San Antonio this Friday. Please remember these young people in your prayers as they travel and take part in this exciting event. Pray also for wisdom and guidance for our youth leaders Dawn Barth and Pastor Chris.



Megan Barth	Jesse Deitemeyer	Angella Osinde
Christina Smith	Tyler Deitemeyer	Daniele Haekenkamp
Dylan Berard	Damien Gehler	Adam Schlichtmann

July Youth Events

Upcoming Bible Study Opportunities



Wednesday, July 3-No Youth Group; National Youth Gathering in San Antonio.
Wednesday, July 10-from 7:45-9 p.m. Youth Group for grades 7-12 (Special game night).
Wednesday, July 17-from 7:45-9 p.m. Destination Unknown for grades 7-12.
Wednesday, July 24-No Youth Group; Pastor Chris at LCMS National Convention.
Wednesday, July 31-No Youth Group; Pastor Chris on vacation.

Upcoming Fellowship Events

Sunday, July 14 – Day at Thunder Road: Junior high students (sixth through eighth grade) are invited for summer fun from 1-3 p.m. at Thunder Road. We will have a short Bible study followed by the park attractions. Cost is \$12 for four tickets. Please fill out a form and see Pastor Chris for more details.



Tuesday, July 16: Senior High Lakes Day: Soak up some rays with fellow senior high students as we explore God's word in bible study before hitting the lake. We will meet at Beautiful Savior at 10:30 a.m. Please bring money for lunch and supper, along with \$15 for gas. Jet-skiing, wake-boarding swimming and sunning will be part of the day. Please fill out a form and return to Pastor Chris.

Thursday, Aug. 1: Tubing Trip on the Ottertail River. All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to our annual tubing trip. We will meet at Beautiful Savior at 9 a.m. for Bible study then travel to our destination. Please bring \$13 for transportation and shuttle rental. Also bring extra cash for lunch at Detroit Lakes and ice cream on the trip back to Fargo. We will return around 7 p.m. We can make alternate arrangements to return earlier, if needed. Please fill out a form and turn into Pastor Chris if interested.



Ongoing Servant Events

Ongoing – Meals/Snacks at Gladys Ray Shelter: All junior and senior high youth and their families can help battle homelessness and its effects in the F-M area. We need volunteers to prepare snacks and meals for residents at the Gladys Ray Shelter, 1519 First Ave. N in Fargo. On the third Sunday of the month, a few families should coordinate to make a meal for the residents. Every other week, we would like two families to make two dozen bars for the residents. All food should be dropped off by 5:30 p.m. Sign up on the bulletin board or see Pastor Chris for more information.



BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

2601 23rd Ave. SW ■ Fargo, ND 58103

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Contact Us

PHONE : (701) 293-1047
EMAIL: office@bslcfargo.org
WEB: www.beautifulsaviorfargo.com

Office Hours

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

Additionally, Pastor Dave and Pastor Chris are available by appointment.

Summer Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship at 8:30 and 10 a.m.

Wednesday Worship at 7 p.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

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor

David Wagner
701-293-1047

Associate Pastor

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

Administrative Assistant

Vicki Peihl
701-293-1047

Council Members

Chairman:	Brad Cogdill	237-3821
Vice-Chair:	Robert Gregerson	793-4845
Treasurer:	Mike Herrmann	237-4820
Secretary:	Theresa Gehler	241-9736
Properties:	Scott Simonson	280-2552
Education:	Dawn Thompson	233-6511
Education:	Denise Doeling	237-9378
Stewardship:	Mike Schlichtmann	235-6383
Evangelism:	Tim Deitemeyer	793-2220

Board of Elders

A-Bo	Paul Asche	297-9316
Br-D	Dave Anderson	218-298-0135
E-G	Matthew Deardoff	605-261-3013
H-K	Nathan Gannon	205-4606
L-N	Craig Hashbarger	799-7451
O-R	Adam Tykwinski	793-8170
S	Dave Eggers	218-287-3789
T-Z	Steve Thielman	293-7933

Elders are assigned families based on last name

Other Volunteers

LWML President:	Rhonda Hoge	239-9800
Prayer Chain Coordinator:	Shirley Nordstrom	277-1185
Sunday School:	Dawn Thompson	233-6511
Choir Director:	Ramsey Dahl	237-9009
Flower Coordinator:	Mardi Schlichtmann	235-6383
RRLA Board Representatives:	Brad Palmer	364-9775
	Jane Thielman	293-7933
Financial Secretaries	Beth Gustafson	239-9090
	Kristin Sevald	371-7723

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