



July 2021
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OUR MISSION
is to share
God's message,
to grow in our
faith, to love and
serve others.

True Freedom Lived in Dependence on God's Liberation Through Christ

By Pastor Chris

Throughout history, God graciously has granted freedom to be faithful. When Israel toiled in slavery in Egypt, God led His people out of bondage. God's gracious intervention revealed His great mercy and caused His people to worship God and serve Him.

During the times of the judges, God's people foolishly would wander from Him. God would raise up a nation to oppress His people with the intended result that His people would repent. The people would turn back to God, who mercifully heard their cry. God then raised up a judge to deliver His people. God's gracious intervention again revealed His great mercy and called His people to worship God and serve Him.

When people suffered under religious persecution, many sought refuge in what is now the United States. Again, God would hear the cry of His people. In the New World, God again graciously blessed His people with the freedom to be faithful.

(Continued on Page 2.)

Treasured VBS Thank You

A BIG thank you to all of you who donated to, prayed for, and helped with our Treasured" VBS program this year. We would like to thank the kitchen crew who fed all our attendees and the teachers and assistants who guided the children through the nightly adventures. Thanks to Stacy and Jayson Knudson, Pastor Chris and Pastor Brian for their expertise in organizing the program. More than 40 kids came each night to discover God's greatest treasure is not diamonds, gems or gold - it's YOU! We look forward to more VBS fun next year!

(More photos on Page 6.)



True Freedom Lived in Dependence on God's Liberation Through Christ (Continued from Page 1.)

But using our freedom properly does not come easily. The Formula of Concord states: "the unregenerate will of mankind is not only turned away from God, but also has become God's enemy. So it only has an inclination and desire for that which is evil and contrary to God as it is written in Genesis 8:21, 'the intention of man's heart is evil from his youth.'"

The Scriptures and Confessions also reject any notion of synergism, that is, that we cooperate in saving faith. St. Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 3:4-5: "Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God." Jesus tells us in John 15:5, "apart from me, you can do nothing."

Because we carry the sinful nature, the battle for the freedom to be faithful will always be fought within us. The apostle Paul writes: For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," (Galatians 5:13-14).

As we celebrate our nation's Independence Day, pause to consider true freedom comes not only (or even primarily) through our God-given government; instead, God bestows true freedom richly and powerfully through the Gospel.

When the Fourth comes around, where will you be? Think carefully. Because our ultimate freedom celebration does not find expression in booming fireworks, patriotic parades and backyard barbecues.

Through the Gospel, our ultimate freedom celebration comes as we declare to our enemy, the evil one: "Satan, hear this proclamation: I am baptized into Christ! Drop your ugly accusation; I am not so soon enticed. Now that to the font I've traveled, all your might has come unraveled, And against your tyranny, God, my Lord, unites with me!" (LSB 594, verse 3).

Our ultimate expression of freedom finds its expression in Christians gathered to hear the Word, which cleanses hearts and consciences, breaking the bonds of sin, death and the power of the devil.

Our ultimate freedom celebration comes as we gather for the feast of the Lord's Table to receive Christ's true body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins and strengthening of our faith.

Through these means, our God fights the battles in a war He already has won. Here, our God overcomes those things that would seek to strip His people of their victory and standing in Christ. Through these means, God's people can and do recognize that freedom used to exert power over others, pursue earthly happiness or indulge the sinful nature in destructive ways does not constitute true freedom. Through these means, God grants a true freedom, a freedom always lived in dependence on God's liberation through Christ.

Happy Independence Day!

Pastor Chris

Upcoming Bible Studies

9:30 a.m. Sunday morning Bible study: Seeking God's guidance: How to make wise decisions -

"God, I don't know what to do." We have all said these words and struggled with making God-pleasing decisions. Sin has complicated and compromised our ability to make wise choices that reflect God's perfect and Holy will. Prey to fallen human ideas, opinions and feelings, God's people stray from God's truth! Christians often skip the Divine Service, seeing it as optional rather than God's precious gift. Christians often cohabitate and enter sexual relationships outside of marriage against God's will. Gender and sexuality have degenerated into twisted expressions against God's design. Social media has become a fierce battleground for attacking others. Vulgarities abound in today's speech. Respect for authority has declined significantly. In the Holy Spirit's power, we will turn to the Holy Scriptures as our final authority, knowing that God has given us His word to show us our sin, reveal our Savior and empower us to do His will.

7 p.m. Tuesday evening Bible study: "Genesis: A Book of Beginnings" - Genesis is a book of

beginnings and promises. It explains the beginning of the universe, the beginning of humankind, the beginning of sin, the beginning of God's people, the beginning of God's covenant promises with Abraham and his descendants and the beginning of sacrifice as the substitution of death for life. The rest of the Bible - particularly the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ - only makes sense when we understand these important beginnings.

9 a.m. Thursday Women's Bible study via Zoom: "Sermon on the Mount" - will conclude on July 15 and resume in August with a new Bible study. Contact Shirley Elsner at 388-9521 to sign up.

Many Opportunities Available to Get Involved at Beautiful Savior

Have you ever wondered if you would enjoy singing with the choir, playing piano, organ or playing in the praise band? Do you have a gift for prayer, sewing, gardening, working with children or teens, or planning activities? Serving on church council or elders? These are just some of the ways you can contribute your gifts and talents at Beautiful Savior:

- BSLC is in need of an organist or pianist to help give our regular musicians a break.
- BSLC is in need of altar guild members. Our altar guild sets up communion on Sundays, Wednesdays or holidays when Holy communion is celebrated.
- BSLC is in need of a chairman for the board of stewardship. Duties include working with the pastor(s) to develop and implement programs, educate and train members in the Scriptural principles and practices for sharing of time, talents and treasures and attend monthly council meetings to present reports on stewardship programs and initiatives.
- The LWML uses service captains to line up treats, set up and clean up for fellowship or clean up for special services.
- BSLC can always use extra hands for yard work, mowing, tending to the landscaping, pulling weeds and picking up garbage.
- BSLC can always use extra hands for spring/fall cleaning inside the building. Washing windows, dusting, vacuuming, office work.
- BSLC can always use prayer warriors if you would like to be added to the prayer chain.

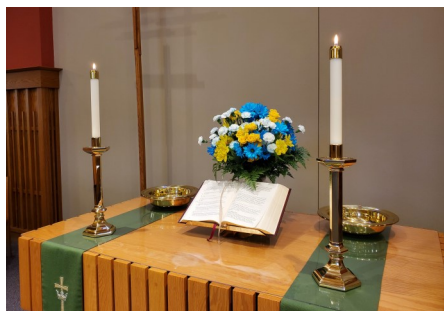
Please prayerfully consider if you could step up in any of these positions or duties. If you want more information on how you can serve our congregation, please visit with Pastor Chris or Pastor Brian, or leave your name in the church office.

Gold Club is Back

Gold Club will resume meeting this month! Join us at noon on Wednesday, July 21 for a potluck luncheon. Bring your specialty dish to share with others. Gold Club is a time to get together and enjoy food, faith and fellowship. Invite a friend, Gold Club is for anyone!

New Candles Light Altar at Beautiful Savior

You may have noticed new candles on the altar. They were purchased with a memorial donation in memory of Raymond Schlichtmann, the father of Mike Schlichtmann.



Baptisms

June 6: Ryker Joseph Lehfeltdt, son of Riley Roy-Lagasse and Atlanta Lehfeltdt, born Mar. 27, 2021. His sponsors were Christopher Lehfeltdt and Alaiyah Haas.



Wedding Anniversaries

July 24: Gaylord and Marilyn Schilling will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

Gaylord and Marilyn met in Dickinson through a mutual friend. They were married at St. Marks Lutheran Church, Minot. They lived in Dickinson until 1988 when they moved to Minot. They moved to Fargo in 1995.

They have two children. Kristy and John Hendrickson have two daughters, Hattie and Sadie. They live in Lakeville, MN. Greg and Trish have one daughter, Gracie. Greg and Trish live in Halstad, MN and Gracie lives in Fargo.

Marilyn is a retired dental hygienist and Gaylord retired from sales, but has returned to work part time as a delivery driver. They spend three months in the winter in Destin, FL.

Please let the office know if you are celebrating a milestone birthday or anniversary.



Clubs and Service Groups



Service Group - Fellowship along with coffee and treats will now be served after worship. Our group for July consists of the letters A-Bo with Andrea Olson as captain. She will call you asking for treats or help with events. Thanks for your help. Our August group will be the letters Br-D with captain Janet Koppinger.

Elders - At least one of 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 elders.

Quilting and Fellowship - Our mission quilting group is up and running again. If you like to sew or just want to get out of the house for a few hours of fellowship - come join us. We will only meet the second Thursday in July and August. Join us at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 8. If you have any questions, please 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 - Will resume this month! Gold Club is a time to get together and enjoy some potluck food, faith and fellowship. Our next get together will be at noon on Wednesday, July 21. Invite a friend, Gold Club is for anyone!

LWML - LWML will take the summer off and resume meetings in September. If you have any questions about LWML contact Mary Seiffert or the church office.

Beautiful Garden - The garden is looking good despite the lack of measurable rain. Thanks to the volunteers who have been watering. We will continue to meet at 5 p.m. on Tuesdays and 10 a.m. on Saturdays. Come if you are able. Bring garden gloves, a garden tool and a friend. We look forward to some gardening and fellowship. Contact the church office or Tim Deitemeyer at tim.deitemeyer@hotmail.com to be added to the communication list. See you at the garden!

"Main Street Living North" TV Program News

When we think of the 4th of July, we think of our nation's freedom, and that's a good thing. Yet another freedom that is ever so much greater is being "set free from sin," (Romans 6:18) and its bondage! "For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death." (Romans 8:2). Now that's something that every Christian can celebrate every day!

Thank you for your 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.

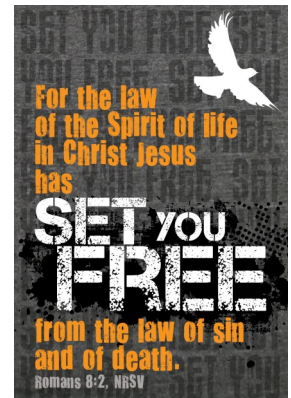
July pastors and sermons:

July 4: Rev. Matthew Meyer, Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Callaway, MN, presents the message "They Rejected Jesus Too," based on Mark 6:1-13. This Is The Life: "The Selling Price."

July 11: Rev. Leo Deitemeyer, First American Lutheran Church, Mayville, presents the message: "Praise the Triune God Who Saves You," based on Ephesians 1:3-14. This Is The Life: "Flight Plan."

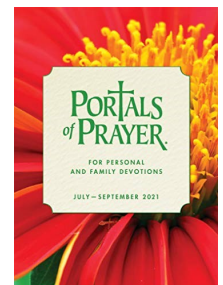
July 18: Rev. Ronald Hobbie, Zion & St. John's Lutheran Churches, Ada, MN, presents the message: "No Longer Desolate," based on Mark 6:31. This Is The Life: "No Laughing Matter."

July 25: Rev. Larry Harvala, retired, Osage, MN, presents the message "Jesus Enables James," based on Mark 10:35-45. This Is The Life: "My Husband, My Sorrow."



Portals of Prayer Now Available

The July-September Portals of Prayer are now available. You may pick them up in the narthex. If you stop in during the week, call the church office to make sure someone will be around.



Humblebrag

By Pastor Brian

"Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me." (2 Corinthians 12:9).

Humblebrag is a term that a comedian officially coined in 2010. To humblebrag is to brag about yourself behind a false show of humility or behind a false complaint.

An example of humblebrag might be this: At a neighborhood party a man says, "I don't know how my kids grew up to be so grounded and successful considering what kind of dad they have." Or this: In the office lunchroom a woman complains, "I wish I could just concentrate on my own work, but everyone keeps coming to me for advice." Or this: On a first date, the young man says, "You should probably know about my character flaws. For one, I'm too conscientious. For another, I tend to care too much about other people." No doubt you get the idea.

As it turns out, recent studies have shown that humblebragging does not work very well. An article in a recent edition of *Time* magazine cites a study in which people actually dislike a humblebrag more than a straightforward brag. In fact, they dislike a humblebrag even more than a straightforward complaint. The reason for this appears to be that people smell a whiff of dishonesty in the humblebrag, whereas the straightforward brag and the straightforward complaint are, at least, sincere.

Which brings us to the apostle Paul. In his second letter to the Christians in Corinth, Paul did a bit of bragging. And his bragging was humble. It was not, however, a humblebrag. On the contrary, Paul found himself in a moment of profound truth. You see, for a long time Paul had been painfully aware of his own weaknesses and failures. He'd been painfully aware of his own inadequacies, struggles, and imperfections.

But when Paul fervently asked the Lord several times to take away some of his weaknesses, the Lord told Paul that it was those very weaknesses that helped Paul keep his eyes focused on God's grace, God's undeserved love in Jesus Christ.

And so, take inventory of your weaknesses. Take inventory of your difficulties. Take inventory of your inadequacies and struggles. See how the Lord has used them to keep your field of vision filled with God's forgiveness of your every sin through faith in Jesus as your Savior. Give thanks for them. Rejoice in them. Parade them as precious evidence of the Lord's love for you.



Bh

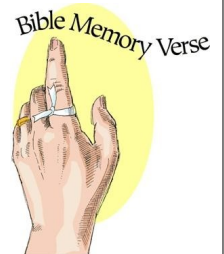
Congregational Memory Verse Challenge

July 5: Mark 10:45 - For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

July 12: Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

July 19: Matt. 6:33-34 - But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

July 26: John 11:25 - Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live."





Grace Lutheran School News

- Camp Grace is in full swing at GLS. We are serving 48 children and their families in a Christ-centered, fun-filled, kid-focused childcare setting.
 - **Volunteers Needed:** Do you have a day off with no plans? A quiet weekend? A rainy day that's keeping you inside? Are you retired and looking for a creative outlet? GLS needs volunteers to do light maintenance projects and painting this summer. Other projects include organizing our curriculum room, repainting and repair of our holiday lights nativity display, and in August our teachers will need assistance preparing their classrooms for students. All materials are provided. Please call the school or email secretary@gracels.com if you are interested in any of these projects.
 - The landscape makeover is looking great! Trees were planted in May and sod lifted to make way for groomed garden beds and plants. Landscape pavers were laid and plants planted in June. Photos can be found on our Facebook page. Persons interested in helping purchase plants should contact the office at 232-7747.
 - The 2021-2022 school year starts on Wednesday, Aug. 25. Our Pre-Kindergarten is re-opening this fall after a one-year hiatus. We are looking forward to inviting in many new families and seeing all our returning families. Back to School Night will take place on Monday, Aug. 23 - time to be determined.
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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 or continue their education from an LCMS university or seminary. Applications are available in the church office.

LCMS Summer Camps

Beautiful Savior will offer \$100 scholarships to those who plan to attend LCMS camps. Please call Pastor Chris or Pastor Brian for more information.

Shepherd's Hill at the Crossroads:

This year at Shepherd's Hill at the Crossroads, the summer theme is "Be Strong in the Lord." You can register online at shretreat.org, email Rev. Jon Bonine, executive director, at director@shretreat.org, on the church website or pick up an application in the narthex.

Lutheran Island Camp: This year at Lutheran Island Camp, the summer theme is "God of Wonder." LIC has hired a new year-round program coordinator, Julia O'Laughlin. You can register online at www.islandcamp.org.



Encounter Camp at Shepherd's Hill

All Beautiful Savior students who will enter grade seven or above should consider attending Encounter Camp Sunday, July 25, through Friday, July 30, at Shepherd's Hill at the Crossroads. Join us as we encounter God through word, world, worship and recreation encounters. Make new friends. Learn leadership skills and spend time being fed by God's Word in a camp setting! Beautiful Savior also has scholarship money available to help offset the cost. See Pastor Chris 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

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/BeautifulSaviorLutheranFargo

Office Hours:

9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday

Pastor Chris and Pastor Brian are also available by appointment.

Worship Schedule:

Sunday at 9 a.m. in-person & via YouTube

Adult Bible Study 10:15 a.m. Sunday

Wednesday at 7 p.m. in-person

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 Spotify and iTunes app

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701-293-1047

701-893-6995

Associate Pastor

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: Scott Persoon 219-0399

Education: Stacy Knudson 306-4302

Stewardship: vacant

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

ENLIGHTEN is a monthly publication of Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church.

LWML President:

Mary Seiffert

212-3712

Choir Director:

Ramsey Dahl

237-9009

RRLSA Board Representatives:

Randy Johnson

200-6523

Kim Ternes

205-7101

Financial Secretary:

Beth Gustafson

239-9090