

June 2023

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High Expectations are Met When We Take God at His Word

By Pastor Chris

Yogi Berra famously (and hilariously) illustrated the problem of human expectations. The baseball legend once explained to fellow players Stan Musial and Joe Garagiola that a renowned restaurant in his old neighborhood had fallen out of favor due to its popularity: "Nobody goes there anymore," Berra said. "It's too crowded."

The problem, it seems, lies not in high expectations, but rather in fallen expectations. If anything, our expectations are not high enough. That always happens when we value something over and above God's promises. Peter did not expect that the coming of Christ's Kingdom could include our Lord's rejection, mocking, humiliation, crucifixion, and death. James and John, the "Sons of Thunder," expected to render immediate judgement, asking to call fire down from heaven upon a village in Samaria after its residents rejected Jesus. Upon Christ's ascension, the disciples seemed perplexed Jesus had not done things according to their expectations: "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" (Acts 1:6b).

(Continued on Page 2.)

Summer Office Hours

9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday beginning May 30
Pastor Chris and Pastor Brian available by appointment.

Summer Worship Schedule

Wednesday Worship at 7 p.m. beginning May 24
(The sermon corresponds with the following Sunday.
We will not have a service Wednesday, June 7 during VBS.)

Sunday Worship at 9 a.m. beginning May 28

Adult Bible Study 10:15 a.m. Sunday



**Summer
Worship
Schedule**

A Stellar VBS Worship Service

8 p.m. Thursday, June 8

There will be a stellar worship service from 8 - 8:25 p.m. Thursday, June 8. Our VBS kids will be singing the songs they have learned at this year's vacation Bible school. Come hear some fun music and support the kids.

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

High Expectations are Met When We Take God at His Word

(Continued from Page 1.)

But things turned out much better for them and for us. In Christ, everything went according to God's plan and expectation. Through Christ's suffering and death, our Lord atoned for the sins of the whole world. By rising to life again, He restored everlasting life to us. Upon His ascension, He returned to the Father to fill all things and exercise dominion over all things. By pouring out His Spirit at Pentecost and through the preaching of His Word, He brings from every tribe, tongue and nation people into His everlasting, heavenly Kingdom.

Perhaps the happiness or excitement in your life does not match what you envisioned, and you think God hasn't properly delivered on all your wonderful wishes and deepest dreams. But God's plans and promises outweigh and go above anything you can imagine. If anything, your expectations are not high enough.

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it," (Isaiah 55:8-11).

God has given us the Scriptures to know His thoughts and ways. By the power of the Holy Spirit, God also grants the faith to take Him at His Word through His Word, thereby shaping and molding godly expectations. Through God's Word, you will come to know that Christ not meeting fallen expectations is a good thing. Jesus did, however, perfectly fulfill God's Word. Because Christ did that, God "has compassion" on you and "abundantly pardons" all of your sins, (Isaiah 55:7).

This wonderful news brings rejoicing not only from you but also from a completely restored creation. In the Day of our Lord, our godly, faithful, high expectations will give way to astounding reality: "For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the LORD, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off," (Isaiah 55:12-13).



*You shall go out
IN JOY
and be led forth
IN PEACE.*

ISAIAH 55:12, ESV

Pastor Chris

Voters' Meeting 10:15 a.m. Sunday, June 11

In March, BSLC voted to approve Phase I of the Growing Together in Grace project for Grace Lutheran School. The approval of Phase I was to determine if our church supported moving forward with the project. Phase I was approved. We will now vote on the second phase, which determines the amount we will commit to the project during the next five years. Plan to attend the voter's meeting at 10:15 a.m. on Sunday, June 11 and hear about this project and provide input or ask questions.



Upcoming Bible Studies

10:15 a.m. Sunday morning Bible study: "Everyone His Witness" -

We will help you get over your fear of the word "evangelism" and focus on good news and great joy in Jesus Christ. We will help you witness to friends, co-workers and other non-churched people you know. It's done by listening to those who are unsure about Christianity. It means asking questions that aren't accusatory and sharing the Good News about Jesus. Notice there's no bashing, no judgment, and no forced imposition of beliefs. Instead, there's understanding, communication and honesty between friends.

7 p.m. Tuesday night Bible study: "Celebrating the Saints" -

How much do you know about figures from Christian history like Emperor Constantine, Polycarp or Anselm? What about lesser-known people from the Bible such as Silas, Matthias (not Matthew) or Simon the Zealot? Throughout history, God has delivered His people by demonstrating His goodness, mercy and grace. In the forgiveness of sins in Christ alone, God's people are rightly called saints. Intertwined with the Lord's story are those who are His. Join us to see God working remarkably in the lives of His people.

9 a.m. Thursday Women's Bible study: "Encouraging One Another" begins June 8 -

Learn how God planned ahead for gloomy days, how He knows when we need a lift and how He has arranged for encouragement to be waiting for us. Sign up in the church office or call Donna Ceroll at 701-640-5847.

7 p.m. Monday, June 12: Men's Bible study -

Enjoy fellowship with other men from our church and learn what the Bible says about the vocation God gave us.

7 p.m. Thursday, June 15: Married Couple Bible study -

We will be taking a look at what God's Word has to say about marriage and why it is still relevant today!

Wednesday Night Potluck Meal

Before the Wednesday night services on June 21, July 19 and Aug. 16, we will host a potluck meal to get to know our fellow BSLC family. The meals will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided. Bring a dish or dessert to share and enjoy a meal and fellowship with your church family!



Get Your Beautiful Savior Apparel Now

For a limited time, purchase your Beautiful Savior apparel through a secure link by scanning the QR code, on the church website or at <https://www.storessimple.com/1stimpresions/23072> or if you don't have internet, the church office can help you place your order.



Polo shirts, half-zips and T-shirts will be available to purchase. Please note that VBS attendees will be receiving T-shirts. Samples are available for you to try on. Shirts will be available to pick up in the church office sometime in early June.

Spring Cleaning at Beautiful Savior

Volunteers are needed to spring clean the church above and beyond what Katie cleans weekly. This includes classrooms, fellowship hall and the church yard. Stop in for a half an hour or half a day. Task sheets are posted in each room. Return sheets to the office when all the tasks have been completed. Thank you for volunteering to clean God's house.

Church Mowing

If you would be willing to help with mowing and upkeep of the church property throughout the summer, please contact Matt Gustafson or leave a message in the church office.



Stellar Vacation Bible School: Shine Jesus' Light

6 p.m. Sunday, June 4 - Thursday, June 8



Kids ages four through those in sixth grade are invited to join us for VBS this summer for Bible narratives, songs, crafts, games and more! We need many hands to make it a success! We are looking for volunteers to help with the following:

Crew Leaders - move your group of children from station to station.

Station Leaders - lead a designated activity each night. Stations include: crafts, outside games, KidVid and music.

Registration - sign kiddos up each night and point them in the right direction.

Decoration Crew - prior to VBS you would need to help make decorations and set materials.

Donations - Return items to the VBS table in the narthex.

VBS Supper - A meal will be available from 5:15-5:45 p.m. every day in the fellowship hall for a free-will offering.

VBS Program - The whole family is invited to join us for our program at 8 p.m. Thursday, June 8.

If you would like to help or have questions, talk to Stacy Knudson or Pastor Brian.



When good things happen...
shine Jesus' light!

Thank You ...

- to Stacy and all our Sunday school teachers and helpers for the 2022-2023 school year.
- to Ramsey and Lyndell for leading the music for the Sunday school program and choir.
- to the parents for sending your children to Sunday school and confirmation each week.

Don't Get Scammed

If you receive an email or text that sounds like it is coming from Pastor Chris or Pastor Brian asking you to purchase a gift card or to contact them regarding an "important matter," this is a scam. We would **never** send out texts or emails asking you for a donation or information. If you have any questions, please contact the office.



BSLC Treasurer's Report General Operating Fund		
<u>Oper. Fund</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Contributions	40,952	161,067
Expense	46,726	157,497
Surplus/(Shortfall)	(5,774)	3,570

Clubs and Service Groups



Elders - Our elders greet members and visitors, help the pastors with any needs and see that all goes well at worship service. 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 will meet only once this month 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Thursday, June 22. Come for awhile, or stay the whole time. Call Donna Ceroll at 701-232-2464 with questions.

Gold Club - Gather together and enjoy some potluck food, faith and fellowship. Our next get-together will be at noon on Wednesday, June 14. Bring a patriotic dish. Gold Club is for anyone!

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 Dr. S., Fargo.

Beautiful Garden - As you are reading this, the garden should be planted and showing signs of growth - both veggies and weeds. This is where we could use you. Our weekly gardening sessions are at 5 p.m. on Wednesdays and at 9 a.m. on Saturdays or whenever it works best for you. This is designed to be good Christian fellowship and a little light gardening work. Gardeners get to reap some of the harvest, and we also set out the remainder in the church narthex for members to help themselves. We also donate to area food banks. Email tim.deitemeyer@hotmail.com if you wish to be added to the communication list. A special thanks to Adam Kubista for tilling our garden plots.

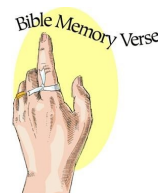


LWML - Join fellow LWML women at the 2023 national convention June 22-25 in Milwaukee, WI. Celebrate the "Lord of the Nations," (Psalm 33:12-13). Register at www.lwml.org. A list of in-gathering items is on the church website or on the convention display in the narthex. Please return items to the church by June 18.



Save the date for the LWML Fall Luncheon - 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 14. Kirk Rosin will be presenting on the Orphan Grain Train in the Ukraine.

Congregational Memory Verse Challenge



June 4: 1 Corinthians 6:20 - You were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

June 11: Galatians 3:26 - In Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.

June 18: Ephesians 5:8 - At one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.

June 25: Colossians 3:12 - Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

A Message from Lutheran Family Services

Building Healthy Families: Each person's experience with grief following a loss is unique, yet we share one thing in common: we all have need for someone to hear us, listen to our stories and be witness to our deep loss, without needing to fix, lessen or reframe our experience. Knowing that many are struggling with prolonged, complicated grief, Lutheran Family Services recently added a person with extensive training and experience to help people with grief. Dr. Mark Vander Braak, a life-long LCMS Lutheran, is now available to anyone who has suffered traumatic loss or prolonged grief. He can work with you through individual meetings providing grief education and support. Meetings with Dr. Mark are available in-person in Sioux Falls, SD or via telehealth to anyone in the United States, regardless of location. Reach out today for more information or to schedule a time to talk with Dr. Mark by emailing mvanderbraak@lutheranfamilyservice.org or through the "contact us" link on the LFS website. www.LutheranFamilyService.org

Please Update Your Information

Do we have your latest phone number? Have you moved? If you go to the lakes for the summer, please let the church office know. Newsletters are not forwarded, and the church is charged \$1.58 each time one comes back. By letting the office know, a newsletter can be e-mailed to you each month until you return home. Thanks!

Hope

By Pastor Brian

"In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also," (John 14:2-3).

In Jesus' day, it was the wedding custom that just after the Jewish couple was engaged, the groom would go to prepare a home or room for his bride. Then upon returning to the bride's home, he would sweep his lady off her feet and take her to their wedding ceremony.

Part of this sounds very romantic—a bride waiting expectantly, not quite sure when her beau will come. Surely the young woman had great confidence that her fiancée would return to pick her up for the wedding. After which, they would have a glorious life together. But there must have been a little doubt as she waited while hours, even days passed by.

Jesus understood that after He left the earth, the hope of His followers for His return could easily slip from sure faith to nagging doubt. So, just before He died, Jesus explained that they could be confident in their hope in Him. No matter how long the delay, Jesus would return and take them to the place prepared for them with Him.

Jesus gives this sure promise to all who have hope in Him: "I am going [to my Father's house] to prepare a place for you. ... I will come again and take you to myself, that where I am you may be also."

You might be hoping to get a raise or that your team wins the NBA Championship, or even that you have found the right "someone." Yet, with all our dreams and hopes, we can never be sure. Relationships can go sour, jobs can get cut, or teams can fizzle out down the stretch. What makes Jesus so amazing is that we can put our complete confidence in Him and know that He will never fail us—not now, not ever. In Jesus, we have true hope.

"IN MY FATHER'S HOUSE
ARE MANY ROOMS.
IF IT WERE NOT SO,
WOULD I HAVE TOLD
YOU THAT I GO
TO PREPARE
A PLACE FOR YOU?"

JOHN 14:2, NIV

"Main Street Living North" TV Program News

Summer has finally arrived, and with it often comes increased traveling taking us out of town on Sundays and or at other times when our congregations' worship services are normally being held. With this in mind, please remember our LCMS "Main Street Living" media ministry broadcast each Sunday morning.

To add your financial support, send checks 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!

June pastors and sermons are as follows:

June 4: Rev. Matthew Meyer, Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Callaway, MN, presents the message: "Creation/Re-creation" based on Matthew 28:16-20. *This Is the Life:* "How Come a Nice Girl Like You."

June 11: Rev. Jonathan Walla, Bethel Lutheran Church, Bismarck, presents the message: "Calling All Sinners" based on Matthew 9:9-13. *This Is the Life:* "A Will to Live."

June 18: Rev. Lester Wolfgram, Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Bismarck, presents the message: "The Lord Sees and Sends" based on Matthew 9:35-10:8. *This Is the Life:* "Man in the Middle."

June 25: Vicar Jason Kohm, Zion Lutheran Church, Bismarck, presents the message: "Have No Fear, Jesus Is...Asleep in the Back?" *This Is the Life:* "Return Trip."

When people don't get along...
shine Jesus' light!



BSLC High School Seniors

These seniors graduated last weekend. We ask God to bless each of you and be with you in your new endeavors. Congratulations to you!

Sam Lies, son of Joel and Tami Lies, will graduate from Davies High School in Fargo. He plans to attend North Dakota State University and major in radiology.

Ben Thielman, son of Steve and Jane Thielman, will graduate from Davies High School in Fargo. He plans to move to Phoenix, AZ and work full-time at the new Scheels store in Chandler.

Nathan Thielman, son of Steve and Jane Thielman, will graduate from Davies High School in Fargo. He plans on taking a gap year and working full-time.

Leah Tykwinski, daughter of Adam and Nancy Tykwinski, will graduate from West Fargo High School in West Fargo. She plans to attend North Dakota State University and major in radiological sciences.



LCMS Summer Bible Camps

Shepherd's Hill at the Crossroads is now taking registrations for summer camp. Check out the bulletin board by the office for a full list and description of all the programs, pricing and registration information or visit their website at www.shretreat.org or call Rev. Jon Bonine at 701-244-5225.



Lutheran Island Camp is now taking registrations for summer camps. For a full list and description of all their summer camp programs and registration, visit their website at <http://www.islandcamp.org/>.

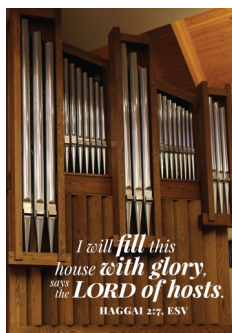
Encounter Camp at Shepherd's Hill

All Beautiful Savior students who will enter grade seven or above should consider attending Encounter Camp Sunday, July 23 through Friday, July 28, 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! BSLC has scholarship money available to help offset the cost. See Pastor Chris for more information.

Wittenberg Needs a New Organ

Wittenberg Lutheran Chapel is an LCMS campus ministry serving students at UND. Their current organ is in disrepair and needs to be replaced. They are hoping to replace their pipe organ with a digital organ, reducing maintenance costs. They aim to raise \$100,000 by fall of 2024, and hope to dedicate it at their 60th anniversary celebration.

You can partner with them by donating an organ key - 70 white keys: \$100-500 each, 50 black keys: \$501-1000 each and 25 pedal keys: \$1001+ each. For more information visit ww.wittenbergchapel.com/organ. Gifts designated "Wittenberg Organ" may be sent to ND District LCMS, Box 9029, Fargo, ND 58106.



GLS Tuition Assistance Available

With classes from pre-kindergarten to eighth grade, Grace Lutheran School is a wonderful option for Christ-centered education. As part of its mission, BSLC offers tuition remission for GLS.

If you would like to apply for GLS tuition assistance for the 2023-2024 school year, please fill out an application form and return it to the church by June 30. If you have any questions about the application form or about our policy, please call Pastor Chris at the church office at 293-1047 or his cell at (701) 893-6995.

We expect that BSLC scholarships would cover between 50-60 percent of tuition, but it depends on how many families apply. We will let the families know how much tuition assistance they will be receiving from the church in early summer.

Grace Lutheran School News

- In May, Sandy's Donuts collaborated with our fifth-eighth grade classes on a donut design project. Sandy's sold the top two designs in their stores for a week. Five dollars of each dozen sold, \$400 total, was donated to Feed My Starving Children, the non-profit chosen by the winning donut designers.
- Thank you again to all who attended or volunteered at Pasta With a Purpose. We had 104 people volunteer during the three days, we served 500 people and raised \$6,780. The stage is now fully funded, ordered, delivered, set up and was used for the spring music concert and graduation
- Our students raised \$468 for Mercy Meals and packed about 3,000 meals for Mercy Meals and the Orphan Grain Train.
- Summer office hours are 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- We have two important policy updates that affect our students. Students who attend GLS from kindergarten through seventh grade will receive a 90 percent tuition discount for eighth grade. Kindergarteners who start now will be eligible for this discount when they are in eighth grade. If you have any questions about this program, contact Mrs. Susan Jahnke at 701-232-7747.



When people are sad...
shine Jesus' light!

Growing Together in Grace Capital Improvement Campaign Update

On May 6, a group of people dedicated to the mission and purpose of Grace Lutheran School met for the first time as the GTIG PACE Fundraising Committee. This group will be the primary organizer of all fundraising activities for the capital improvement campaign for GLS.

What is PACE? Many years ago, Partners Advancing Christian Education was formed as the financial support arm of the school in the early 1970s. In the formative years, people could buy a membership in PACE for \$1/week. PACE has quietly managed funds for many years but is taking an active role in the Growing Together in Grace capital improvement campaign. PACE will handle all funds raised for GTIG. PACE has everything in place to receive funds from a diverse array of financial products and can provide the tax documents necessary for donations.

By August 20, \$837,500 (66 percent) needs to be committed to begin purchasing equipment with lengthy shipping times. Our commitment as of May 18 is \$200,000.

If you wish to contribute to Growing Together in Grace, please contact Amy Hirsch at GLS or speak to your church's treasurer for giving details.

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.

June Youth Events

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

Wednesday, June 14 - from 8-9 p.m. - LYF for grades 6-12.

Wednesday, June 21 - from 8-9 p.m. - LYF for grades 6-12

Wednesday, June 28 - from 8-9 p.m. - LYF for grades 6-12.

Upcoming Events:

Youth Tubing on the Ottertail River, Tuesday, June 20: All youth in grades six-twelve are invited to our annual zone tubing trip. We will meet at Beautiful Savior at 9 a.m. for Bible study then travel to our destination. Please bring money for transportation and shuttle rental, lunch at Detroit Lakes and ice cream on the trip back to Fargo. We will return around 6 p.m. Please fill out a form and turn into Pastor Brian if interested. Deadline is June 16.



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:

Wednesday at 7 p.m.

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

Adult Bible Study 10:15 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

**Non-Profit
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Pastor

Chris Waldvogel

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: Vacant

Vice-Chair: Vacant

Treasurer: Craig Hashbarger

Secretary: Deb Schimek

Properties: Scott Persoon

Education: Stacy Knudson

Stewardship: Claudia Schroeder

Evangelism: Vacant

Board of Elders

A-Bo Brian Rieck

Br-D Dale Olson

E-G Rich Beaver

H-K Jim Willprecht

L-N Mike Sellden

O-R Adam Tykwinski

S Don Schroeder

T-Z Vacant

Elders are assigned families based on last name

ENLIGHTEN is a monthly publication of Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church.



Scan the code to access the BSLC website.

Other Volunteers

LWML President:

Choir Director:

RRLSA Board Representatives:

Financial Secretary:

Mary Seiffert

Ramsey Dahl

Randy Johnson

Kim Ternes

Beth Gustafson