



November 2021

Inside this issue:

Advent Series Explores 'Voices from the Edge'	2
Upcoming Bible Studies	2
Thank You from Pastors	2
Advent Fun Shop	3
Poinsettia Sign Up	3
Munchies for Missions Bake	3
2022 Flower Chart Available	3
NYG Sell Butter Braids	3
EncourageMENT Breakfast	3
RHH/Operating Expenses	3
Clubs and Service Groups	4
Crossfire Youth Praise Band	4
Congregational Memory Verse	4
Normalcy Bias By Pastor Brian	5
Main Street Living North	5
GLS News	6
OCC Packing Party	6
November Youth Events	6
Sunday School Rehearsals	7
BSLC Stand Against Homelessness Update	7

Where are we as a congregation?

Upcoming survey will help find the answer

By Pastor Chris

As part of our mission and stewardship emphasis this year, Beautiful Savior will be asking for your input so that our church may better serve our congregation and community. You can help by filling out an online survey, which will be available from Nov. 14 to Dec. 5. Whether you are a lifelong member at BSLC, new to the church, a frequent attendee or occasional visitor, we encourage you to complete the survey. We want to hear from you.

This survey is part of the LCMS Re:Vitality Lutheran revitalization program. Vital is the key component of revitalization. Wherever the Word is proclaimed in its purity and God's Sacraments are rightly administered, there is spiritual vitality. Re:Vitality builds upon spiritual vitality and guides the church in positive action for sustainable, adaptable, focused and healthy ministry for years to come.

The first step in the Re:Vitality process includes feedback about our congregation. It is important to be honest in your assessment so that we can have an accurate analysis about where we are as a congregation. To ensure honest feedback, your responses will be completely anonymous.

Help us find the answer to "Where are we ... really?"

All adults 18 years and older should fill out this simple online survey. Simply click this link when you are ready to begin: <http://lcms.cadds.alchemer.com/s3/&cong=C308216>

Thank you for submitting your responses by Sunday, Dec. 5.



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

BSLC Thanksgiving Food Drive

Fall is a great time to give thanks for all of God's blessings and to help others in our church family who may be in need. Please bring canned goods (check expiration dates), non-perishable food items, paper products and gift cards to food stores to the church by Sunday, Nov. 21.



Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 24

God blesses us abundantly every day. Beautiful Savior will offer a thanksgiving worship at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 24. Come and give thanks to God for all His gifts to us.



Advent Series Explores 'Voices from the Edge'

Advent has long been a time of preparation for the celebration of Christmas. Yet the road to Christmas is anything but easy. It twists, it turns, and we often get off track on our way to celebrating the birth of a savior for our salvation.

But we are not alone on the journey to Christmas. Voices from the edge call and guide us to Christmas peace, hope and joy. Prophets and apostles cry out in visions. Angels appear whether you are asleep or awake. The voices are varied, the places are strange, but one thing is certain: in each encounter with His inspired Word, God prepares us for the celebration of the greatest encounter of all: the birth of Jesus, His Son, the Redeemer of the world.

Our Advent series "Voices from the Edge: Advent Encounters Preparing the Way" will be held at 7 p.m. from Wednesday, Dec. 1, through Wednesday, Dec. 15. The theme also will continue for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Midweek soup and sandwich suppers also will resume this year at 6 p.m. before services. No need to bring any food as Grace Lutheran School families, BSLC youth and the LWML will provide the meals.

The schedule for the series is as follows:

Wednesday, Dec. 1:

"John's Vision of the Bride" (Rev. 21:1-7)

Wednesday, Dec. 8:

"Zephaniah's Vision of Joy amid Sorrow" (Zephaniah 3:14-20)

Wednesday, Dec. 15:

"Paul's Vision of the New Creation" (2 Corinthians 5:14-6:2)

Friday, Dec. 24:

"The Voice of an Angel and a Sign of Great Joy" (Luke 20:1-20)

Saturday, Dec. 25:

"The Voice of an Angel and Great Joy for All People" (Luke 20:1-20)



Upcoming Bible Studies

9:30 a.m. Sunday morning Bible study: "The Body of Christ: One Body, Many Members" - We all

have stations in life: parent, child, sibling, worker, neighbor, citizen, among others. But how do we view our station as members of a congregation? We may fail to see or feel deep intimate connections in the church, but God's Word tells us we have been united by baptism, each receiving the same Spirit, and each being connected and unified into the body of Christ. As part of one body, each member works with the other members for the good of the whole. God has given a variety of gifts to individual Christians for the common good. During the next several weeks, explore your identity as a member of Christ's body and what that means in relating to others within that same body.

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: "Growing Older and Wiser" - Age brings many gifts and opportunities for continued growth. You discover the Bible's perspective on aging. You'll discover how God can effectively and powerfully use those who have grown wiser with the passing years. No matter how many years you accumulate on this earth, you are offered his gift of eternal life in Christ. Call Shirley Elsner at 388-9521 to sign up.

Thank You from Pastor Chris
and Pastor Brian

Thank you to all those who sent gifts, cards and words of encouragement during Pastor Appreciation month in October. Your kindness and support is truly appreciated!



Advent Fun Shop Set

1-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4

Mark your calendar now for our annual Advent Fun Shop. This fun family event of Christmas crafting for preschoolers through fifth-graders will be 1-3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 4. The cost is \$3 per child, and an adult should accompany the children, especially younger ones. Each family is also asked to bring a dozen cookies for a cookie exchange. Please register your child with Pastor Brian or Stacy Knudson.



Advent Fun Shop

Sign Up for Poinsettias On Altar

Sign up now for poinsettias in memory or in honor of loved ones. We only have 25 slots available for poinsettias this year, so sign up as soon as possible to make sure you receive a plant. You can use the sign-up genius on our website or call the church office to reserve your plant. The plants are \$15. Make checks payable to LWML.



2022 Altar Flower Sign Up Chart Available Now

Consider signing up for a bouquet on the altar in memory or honor of a loved one. The flower chart is located outside the office on the bulletin board. The cost is \$30, and you can take your bouquet home after the second service on Sunday. You can designate the money for altar flowers and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. Please return the vase to the church.

Munchies for Missions Bake Sale

Before and after worship Sunday, Dec. 5

The LWML Munchies for Missions bake sale will be on Sunday, Dec. 5, after both worship services. BSLC members are asked to bake and fill containers of Christmas goodies to sell. Containers will be distributed on Sundays, Nov. 14, 21 and 28. Bring your containers to the church between 9 a.m. and noon Saturday, Dec. 4. Shop on Sunday and take home a variety of tasty goodies for the holidays. Items will be available for a free-will donation this year. Thanks for participating in this fund-raiser for LWML Mites!




encourageMENT - LCMS Men's Ministry Breakfast

Beautiful Savior men, mark your calendars for the encourageMENT - LCMS Men's Ministry breakfast event. This will be held from 9-11:55 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 6, at St. Andrew Lutheran Church, West Fargo. Andrea Eckstein will give a presentation on Mercy Meals of North Dakota. To register, email Corey Isaak at corey.isaak@gracefargo.org.

NYG Youth to Sell Butter Braids

The NYG youth will be selling butter braids for \$12 each to fundraise for their trip to the national youth gathering in Houston, TX on July 9-13, 2022. They will be taking orders until Nov. 17 and the butter braids will be delivered on Dec. 14. If you are interested in ordering, you may order from one of the youth or contact Pastor Brian or the church office to place your order. Thank you for supporting our youth.



Restore His House Capital Campaign		
	Pledged	Goal
	\$318,900	\$330,000
General Operating Fund		
Oper. Fund	Aug.	YTD
Contributions	20,921	278,398
Expense	24,493	263,004
Surplus/ (Shortfall)	(3,572)	15,394

Clubs and Service Groups



Service Group - Our group for November consists of the letters L-N with captain Mary Seiffert as captain. She will call you asking for treats or help with events. Thanks for your help. Our November group will be the letters O-R with captain Wanda Roesler.

Elders - Our elders are here every Sunday morning. They greet members and visitors, help the pastors with any needs and see that all goes well. If you have any concerns for our church, please talk to head elder Adam Tykwinski or any of the elders.

Quilting and Fellowship - We usually meet the second and fourth Thursday of the month. Join us at 12:30 p.m. this month on Thursday, Nov. 11. If you have any questions, call Donna Ceroll at 232-2464.

BSLC Coffee Club - BSLC members, men and women of any age, are invited to gather at 9 a.m. on Friday mornings at Randy's, 2130 University Drive S., Fargo.

Gold Club - Is a time to get together and enjoy some potluck food, faith and fellowship. Our next get-together will be at noon on Wednesday, Nov. 17. Invite a friend; Gold Club is for anyone!

Beautiful Garden - As we wrap up the fifth season at the Beautiful Garden, we would like to thank all those who volunteered. This has been a great fellowship opportunity! It's also a great opportunity to see how God works, turning a tiny seed into a big plant that yields so many wonderful vegetables! If you are interested in helping next year, email your name and address to tim.deitemeyer@hotmail.com, and we'll get you added to the communications list. See you next year at the garden!

You shall rejoice in all the good
that the Lord your God
has given to you.

Deuteronomy 26:11, ESV



LWML - LWML will be meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 18. All women are invited to join. Check out the North Dakota LWML website as *The Messenger* is available online and can be found at www.ndlwml.org/messenger/

Crossfire Youth Praise Band

Crossfire will lead the 8:15 a.m. worship service on Nov. 14. Practice also will be held at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 13 and at 7 p.m. on Sundays, Nov. 7 and 21. If you have questions, call Ramsey Dahl at 866-5403.



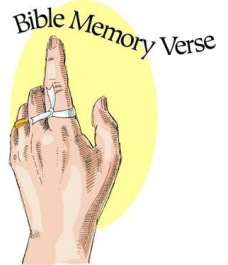
Congregational Memory Verse Challenge

Nov. 7: James 2:10 - For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it.

Nov. 14: John 1:1-3 - In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

Nov. 21: Psalm 96:2 - Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

Nov. 28: 1 Corinthians 1:18 - For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.



Normalcy Bias

By Pastor Brian

"For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night," (1 Thessalonians 5:2).

Want to learn a new term? Here it is. The term is normalcy bias. Normalcy bias is the assumption that just as things have been in the recent past, so they will always be in the future. Normalcy bias is extremely common. We are all vulnerable to it and observers of human nature have said it can be one of the most dangerous biases we have. For instance, normalcy bias is responsible for many car accidents. If you carelessly breeze through the same unmarked intersection hundreds of times without meeting another car, you can begin to assume you will never meet another car. That assumption will work—until the day it doesn't. Normalcy bias was a factor in causing the builders of the Titanic not to include enough lifeboats. And even after the Titanic struck the iceberg, normalcy bias prevented people from getting into the lifeboats. So powerful was the assumption that ocean liners could no longer sink. It was normalcy bias that convinced a lot of people not to flee Nazi Germany when they had a chance because they felt sure that the homeland their families had known for years could not possibly turn into a nightmare.

When it comes to our relationship with God, normalcy bias can be a factor as well. If I live my life without paying much attention to God and His Word; if I rack up day after week after year of going to work and coming home without any kind of shocking crisis, it can be easy for me to assume that this is how it will continue. This is life as it should be and that God is not important. Such an assumption on my part will work—until the day it doesn't.

Through the apostle Paul, God's Word says, "The day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night." God tells us this as a warning. But even this warning comes from a heart of supreme love. Throughout Scripture, the Lord's call to us is urgent. "Listen, listen to me," he says in Isaiah 55:2. "Seek the Lord while he may be found," he says in Isaiah 55:6. "Now is the day of salvation," he says in 2 Corinthians 6:2.

The heart of love that puts out such an urgent call to you and me is the same heart that drove God to become one of us in the person of Jesus Christ. It's the same love that drove him to carry our every sin to the cross and make full payment for all of them.

This is how passionate our Lord is. He wants to shatter the deception of our normalcy bias, and He wants to replace it with the reality of sins forgiven through faith in Him.



"Main Street Living North" TV Program News

Thanksgiving! Thank you to the pastors of our North Dakota and Minnesota North District LCMS congregations for taking the extra time and effort to have their worship services ready several months in advance. Thanks for driving to our recording locations in Fargo, Grand Forks and Bismarck and Mandan. We have now added Minot into our yearly rotation of recording sites. Special thanks to St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Minot for hosting our most recent MSLN recording, which also included a wonderful choir recording made up of members from area congregations!

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.

November pastors and sermons:

Nov 7: Rev. Rick Jones, Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, presents the message "Your All Saints' Day." *This Is The Life:* "The Deadly Pen."

Nov 14: Rev. Timothy Stout, St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Sawyer, presents the message: "Birth Pains," based on Mark 13:1-3. *This Is The Life:* "Transition."

Nov 21: Rev. Daryl Rothchild, Bethlehem/St. John, Newburg, presents the message: "God's Salvation has Gone Out!" based on Isaiah 51:4-6. *This Is The Life:* "Senior Citizen."

Nov 28: Rev. Arie Bertsch, ND District President, presents the message "Are You Good Enough?" based on 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13. *This Is The Life:* "The Gift."

Grace Lutheran School News

Beginning this year, A Celebration of Grace will raise funds for new curriculum. GLS has not updated curriculum in more than 10 years. An entire kindergarten through eighth-grade curriculum can cost up to \$50,000, including textbooks, teacher's manuals and supplemental materials, consumable workbooks and access to digital materials. The school has budgeted for curriculum this year, and we have secured \$14,000 in matching dollars making this an achievable goal to replace our math curriculum.



There are several ways to take part in A Celebration of Grace, both in person and online. The in-person celebration starts at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 12 at the Sanctuary Events Center. This includes a social hour, dinner, program and live auction. The silent auction and cash donations take place entirely online and are open to everyone. Register to bid, get tickets or donate now at gracelutheranschoolfargo.com. All tickets must be pre-purchased by Nov. 7.

Live and silent auction items will open for viewing at noon on Sunday, Nov. 7. Silent auction bidding begins at noon on Wednesday, Nov. 10, and ends at 6:45 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 12. Live auction items will only be available for bidding at the in-person event.

However you choose to participate, we appreciate your commitment to making GLS a place where children can excel academically, grow spiritually and serve faithfully.

OCC Packing Party

10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 20

OCC shoebox gifts should include plenty of fun! WOW toys and small toys of all kinds that will put a smile on a child's face are needed. If a child you know would love it, so will the child receiving the shoebox gift! We can also use more clothing and hygiene items of all kinds. New only - we cannot send used items. **Please have all**



donations to the church by Sunday, Nov. 14.

Join the fun for the Operation Christmas Child Packing Party from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 20. **All are welcome to come anytime as you are able. Bring your whole family or even a friend!**

- Free potato bar lunch available from noon until it's gone. Provided and served by Thrivent Representatives through a Thrivent Action Team. A free-will donation will support our OCC shipping donation.
- Follow Your Box labels will be available for purchase for \$9 each. Find out where your boxes go!
- Photo Opportunity - Get your instant photo taken to include with your personal note in each box!

A complete list of gift ideas and a Do Not Include list is available on the church website. A link for volunteers to sign up to help set up, load boxes and various other jobs at the packing party can be found on the church website. You don't need to sign up to attend - this is only for helpers to make it run smoothly.

Want to shop from home? We have an Amazon Wish List! Visit [amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/PAMPUJDWMOS9?ref_=wl_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/PAMPUJDWMOS9?ref_=wl_share).

November Youth Events

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

Wednesday, Nov. 3 - from 7:30-9 p.m. - LYF for grades 6-12.

Wednesday, Nov. 10 - from 7:30-9 p.m. - LYF for grades 6-12.

Wednesday, Nov. 17 - from 7:30-9 p.m. - LYF for grades 6-12.

BSLC Youth Fundraising:

- FargoDome fundraiser day is scheduled for Nov. 20, talk to Pastor Brian if you are willing to work.
- Butter Braid sales until Nov. 17. Purchase from youth or call Pastor Brian or church office at 293-1047 to place an order.



Preschool through Second Grade Christmas Practice

Christmas program practice for the younger children will begin Saturday, Dec. 4. The first grade and second grade will practice from 8:30 to 10 a.m. The preschool and kindergarten students are asked to come at 9:15 a.m. Their program will be at 8:15 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 19.

Third through Seventh Grade Christmas Practice

Our Christmas practices for third-seventh-grade students will begin Saturday, Nov. 6. Below are the times and dates of practice. Thank you for bringing your children to practice each week.

Nov. 6	10 a.m.	Fabulous Five
	11 a.m. -noon	All third-to-seventh grade
Nov. 13	10 a.m.	Fabulous Five
	11a.m. -noon	All third-to-seventh grade
Nov. 20	10 a.m.	Fabulous Five
	11a.m.-noon	All third-to-seventh grade
Nov. 27	No Practice	Happy Thanksgiving!
Dec. 4	10 a.m.	Fabulous Five
	11a.m.-noon	All third-to-seventh grade
Dec. 11	10 a.m.	Fabulous Five
	11a.m.-noon	All third-to-seventh grade
Dec. 18	10 a.m.-noon	All third-to-seventh grade dress rehearsal
	12:30 p.m.	Pizza Party!
Dec. 19	10 a.m.	Practice and warm-up
	10:45 a.m.	Program



Christmas Rehearsal

Our Fabulous Five are Owen Hashbarger, Jordyn and Kendal Knudson, Tayla Larson and Mya Mathiason. More students are needed to make this play a success. If you have not signed up your third –seventh-grade student for the play, please do so as soon as possible. You can call the office or Ramsey Dahl at 866-5403.

BSLC Stand Against Homelessness Update

Six youth participated in the BSLC Stand Against Homelessness on Oct. 16 and 17. Participants were asked to fast for 24 hours, sleep in a cardboard shelter and learn about homeless issues in the community and the resources available to assist those in need. Those participating were Davis Rieck, Lydia Hestdalen, Thomas and Emerson Vetter, Isaac Blotsky and Eve Hashbarger.



GRATITUDE game

Start a fun tradition by playing this game on Thanksgiving.

What you need:

- M&M's or other colored candies
- A bowl
- The list below (adapt the colors, as needed)

Red: a need God has provided for

Orange: a gift you've received

Yellow: something you've recently learned

Green: something in nature

Blue: a special memory

Brown: someone you love

What you do:

1. One at a time, people pick a candy and share what they're thankful for (according to the color).
2. Pass the bowl around and continue reflecting on God's goodness until all the candy is gone!

LOVE
YOUR neighbor
AS YOURSELF.
Mark 12:31

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

2601 23rd Ave. S., Fargo, ND 58103

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Contact Us:

PHONE : (701) 293-1047

EMAIL: office@bslcfargo.org

WEB: www.beautifulsaviorfargo.com

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/BeautifulSaviorLutheranFargo

Office Hours:

9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday

Pastor Chris and Pastor Brian are also available by appointment.

Worship Schedule:

Sunday at 8:15 a.m. & 10:45 am in-person & via YouTube

Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Sunday

Holy Communion is celebrated on the first, third and fifth Sundays of each month. Pastors are also available by appointment Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Worship Services available at:

www.beautifulsaviorfargo.com

www.youtube.com

www.facebook.com/BeautifulSaviorLutheranFargo

Sermon podcasts on Spotify and iTunes app

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701-893-6995

Associate Pastor

Brian Shane

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314-532-0012

Administrative Assistant

Kim Scheer

701-293-1047

Council Members

Chairman: Denise Doeling 238-1321

Vice-Chair: Mike Schlichtmann 552-0380

Treasurer: Craig Hashbarger 541-0930

Secretary: Kayla Muehler 899-4504

Properties: Scott Persoon 219-0399

Education: Stacy Knudson 306-4302

Stewardship: Claudia Schroeder 361-0570

Evangelism: Tim Deitemeyer 793-2220

Board of Elders

A-Bo Paul Asche 361-6960

Br-D Dale Olson 238-1029

E-G Rich Beaver 371-9077

H-K Joe Pytlik 261-5943

L-N Mike Sellden 235-5828

O-R Adam Tykwinski 793-8170

S Kurt Mathiason 220-4906

T-Z Chris Speelmon 799-7804

Elders are assigned families based on last name

Other Volunteers

ENLIGHTEN is a monthly publication of Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church.

LWML President:

Mary Seiffert

212-3712

Choir Director:

Ramsey Dahl

866-5403

RRLSA Board Representatives:

Randy Johnson

200-6523

Kim Ternes

205-7101

Financial Secretary:

Beth Gustafson

239-9090