

November 2023

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God Has Chosen You as a Faithful Participant in His Mission

By Pastor Chris

As individuals and as a congregation, God gives us the privilege of participating with Him in His divine plan and mission "to seek and to save the lost," (Luke 19:10). Despite our sinful and evil ways, God still has chosen to work through us to share His life-saving gospel to help "all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth," (1 Timothy 2:4). God could have sent legions of angels into the world for this task, but instead, He uses us to be His hands, feet, and mouth to the world. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we participate in God's mission to reach all people by using all that He entrusts to us.

(Continued on Page 2.)

Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service

A Thanksgiving worship service will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 22. Come and give thanks to God for all He has given to us.



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. Bring canned goods (check dates), non-perishable food items, paper products and gift cards to food stores to the church by Sunday, Nov. 19.



Advent Midweek Schedule

Advent Midweek services will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 6, 13 and 20. Soup and sandwich potluck suppers will be at 6 p.m. before worship services. Bring a dish, side or dessert to share.



Help Decorate the Church Dec. 2

Help decorate the church for the Christmas season from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 2. Come for awhile, or stay until it is done!



God Has Chosen You as a Faithful Participant in His Mission

(Continued from Page 1.)

Just before Jesus ascended into heaven, our Lord instructed His disciples: "Go therefore and make disciples...teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age," (Matthew 28:19-20). This Great Commission was not just for the immediate eleven disciples but directed to all believers, and it will not end until Christ's second coming.

Participating in and proclaiming God's love in Christ is what the Church does. Through the gifts of Word and Sacrament, God makes disciples, and Jesus himself has promised to be with us through these means: "And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age," (Matthew 28:20).



Our participation with God radically changes how we view and use what God has entrusted to us. Through faith, we see others as God's children who, like us, are lost and hopeless without Jesus.

As Faithful Participants in God's Mission, God calls and empowers us to use our lives and gifts to His work. During November, we will grow in our understanding of what it means to be Faithful Participants in God's Mission, which is our stewardship emphasis for this year.

As Faithful Participants in God's Mission, Scripture will guide us on the following weekly themes:

Nov. 5: "We are Ambassadors for Christ" (2 Corinthians 5:20).

Nov. 12: "We are God's Fellow Workers" (1 Corinthians 3:9).

Nov. 19: "We are Generous and Ready to Share" (1 Timothy 6:18).

Pastor Chris

Grateful, Thankful and Blessed...

- For the volunteers who greet, usher, run the PowerPoint and set up communion.
- For those who share their musical talents.
- For those who bring treats and help out in the kitchen with fellowship.
- For those who help out with the youth activities.
- For all the volunteers who decorate and make the church look festive for seasons and events.
- For our volunteers who weed, plant and mow outside all summer and make the outside of the building look so nice.
- For the people who help in the office and assemble newsletters.
- For the people who come and help with the upkeep and maintenance of our church building.
- For our church council members and elders.
- For those who help out behind the scenes.



Thank You from Pastor Chris

Thank you to all those who sent gifts, cards and words of encouragement during pastor appreciation month in October. Your kindness and support are greatly appreciated!

Voters' Meeting, Sunday Dec. 10

Beautiful Savior will hold a voters' meeting at 9:30 a.m. between worship services on Sunday, Dec. 10. Please attend this important meeting as we go forward with the call process.



Going South for the Winter?

Please let the church office know when you plan to leave for the winter so that you will still receive any correspondence from the church. You can also let the church know if you would like the e-mail version of the newsletter while you are out of town.

Weddings

Sept. 30:
Donald Kuechle and Sandra Erlenbusch



Oct. 7:
Tyler Eiken and Beth Osman

BSLC Treasurer's Report General Operating Fund

<u>Oper. Fund</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Contributions	21,428	91,161
Expense	34,774	310,117
Surplus/(Shortfall)	(13,346)	(18,956)

2023 Advent Series Explores Christ's Arrival to Battle the Forces of Darkness

During Advent and Christmas, we look forward to and celebrate Christ's arrival as a baby. Often viewed through the lens of sentimentality, this baby can represent God's love for everyone apart from any deep focus on fallen creation. For some, He represents a general "miracle of birth and new life." He is harmless and inoffensive. However, the people of Israel longed for a mighty ruler who would crush their enemies.

In the beginning of Mark's Gospel, Jesus appears suddenly as an adult to be baptized by John in the Jordan. Advent means arrival, and in Mark's Gospel, Jesus does arrive. At His baptism, Jesus is demonstrated to be Messiah and Lord. He is declared to be the Son of God and then is thrown out into battle against Israel's true enemies. In Mark's version of our Lord's advent, Jesus is a threat. He arrives to destroy the evil dominion of the devil, sin, and death. By His coming, God's people are freed, and Jesus alone has become Lord.

Our three-week midweek Advent series "Dominus: The Advent of the Son of God in the Gospel of Mark" will begin at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 6, and conclude Wednesday, Dec. 20.

Plan to join us for midweek soup and sandwich suppers at 6 p.m. before services. Please bring soups, sandwiches, sides and sweets to share with your Beautiful Savior family.

The schedule for the series is as follows:

Wednesday, Dec. 6: Our Lord's Advent and Authority over the Satanic Realm (**Mark 1:21–34**)

Wednesday, Dec. 13: Our Lord's Authority over Sin (**Mark 2:1–17**)

Wednesday, Dec. 20: Our Lord's Authority over Death (**Mark 5:21–43**)



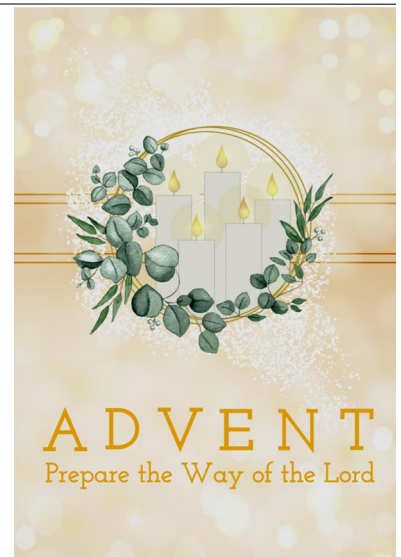
"Gingerbread Bash" for Beautiful Savior Families

2-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3

This year, we'll be hosting a Christmas celebration that you and your family will not want to miss. It's called "Gingerbread Bash," and it'll be happening from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3 in the fellowship hall.

What's a gingerbread bash? It's a gingerbread nativity building party designed for the whole family. A parent must attend with the child. In addition to building and decorating your own gingerbread nativity, you'll get to play games, sing songs, hear the Christmas story from the Bible and discover the good news of Jesus. It's a sweet way for your family to celebrate the birth of our Savior!

You won't want to miss out on the fun, but we need you to register! You can do that by signing up in the narthex, no later than Nov. 19. We can't wait to "bash" with you!



Munchies for Missions Bake Sale Before and after worship Sunday, Dec. 3

The LWML Munchies for Missions bake sale will be on Sunday, Dec. 3, after both worship services. BSLC members are asked to bake and fill containers of Christmas goodies to sell. Containers will be distributed on Sunday, Nov. 12, 19, and 26. Bring your containers to the church between 9 a.m. and noon Saturday, Dec. 2. Shop on Sunday and take home a variety of tasty goodies for the holidays. Items will be available for a free-will donation. Thanks for participating in this LWML mites fund-raiser!



Poinsettias On Altar

A sign-up sheet will be available soon on the church website to order poinsettias in memory or in honor of loved ones. The price will be listed on the sign-up sheet. Quantities will be limited to 20, so get your orders in early. Please make checks payable to the LWML.



BSLC Clubs and Service Groups

Elders - Our elders greet members and visitors, helps the pastor 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 this month from 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 9. You do not need to know how to quilt. 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 lunch will be at noon on Wednesday, Nov. 15 with a recap of the Bible study Pastor Nabil Nour gave at Grace, by Rita Kaeding. She will save her presentation on her trip(s) to the Holy land for our January lunch. Bring a dish to share. 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 - The harvest is complete, and we thank God for the bounty reaped. We will meet sometime in the winter to decide how to proceed with the garden next summer. If you wish to be added to the communication list, email tim.deitemeyer@hotmail.com.



LWML - We will meet at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 16. We will be discussing the upcoming Munchies for Missions event. All women are invited to attend.

We will not be having a December meeting, instead, we will be volunteering for the Feed My Starving Children Project taking place at the Fargodome in January. The event dates are Jan. 5-15. Volunteers can sign up for a two-hour shift. We would like to pick an evening time slot and invite members from the congregation to join us.

LWML Sunday Update: \$260.10 was collected during the loose change mite collection on Oct. 1. Thank you for your donations to mites.

Fall Brunch Update: A fun time was had by all who attended the Celebration of the Seasons Fall Brunch. We enjoyed some wonderful musical selections by Paula Larsen celebrating the seasons of life. Then, Kirk Rosin from Orphan Grain Train, shared photos and stories from his trip to Ukraine, which included pictures of donated items being distributed to families there. We enjoyed the brunch with beautifully decorated tables based on seasons on the year. Our menu items had clever Biblical names. A shop-n-drop auction was held during the event, as well as a free-will offering for Orphan Grain Train. A combined total of \$2,379 was collected. All proceeds will be donated to Orphan Grain Train for continued support to Ukraine. We collected candles for the Ukrainians and the BSLC Quilters also donated 21 quilts.

Thank you to Matt Gustafson for emceeing, the men who served, the ladies who cooked the delicious meal, Paula Larsen for the entertainment, Kirk Rosin for his presentation and, of course, the ladies of the LWML for your hard work in making this event happen. It was a fun, delicious event for a worthwhile cause.

(Photos from the Celebration of Seasons Fall Brunch)



Upcoming Bible Studies

9:30 a.m. Sunday morning Bible study: “Jesus said What?” - Jesus doesn't always tell you what you want to hear, but He always tells you what you need to hear. Our Lord has the words of eternal life, and even the hard words of Jesus are given in love. In our culture of sound bites, it's easy for our Lord's words to be taken out of context and misunderstood. Come explore 15 of Christ's most difficult teaching on topics such as money, family relationships and consequences for sin. Each lesson will explore one teaching of Jesus by exploring His full treatment of the topic, along with parallel passages through the Bible and its context. “Jesus Said What?” Will help you to understand the hard words of Christ and come to know the love of Jesus behind them.

5:45 p.m. Sunday night Bible Study: “The Chosen” - See the Bible come to life through “The Chosen” video series. We will watch one episode each week followed by a brief discussion. Bring a dish to share and at 5:45 p.m. we will have a potluck meal in the fellowship hall, watch the nightly episode at 6 p.m., have a discussion at 7 p.m. and end our study by 7:30 p.m. Bring your family and friends for a night of fellowship and faith.

7 p.m. Tuesday night Bible study: “Life in Christ: Rooted, Woven and Grafted into God's Story” - Reading and understanding the Bible can be difficult, even for lifelong Christians. Perhaps you even have trouble connecting your personal life to the family lineages, narratives, and parables from Christ's teaching.

Rev. Dr. Adam T. Filipek, pastor of Holy Cross and Immanuel Lutheran Churches, in Lidgerwood, ND, help us to understand how your life story—yes, your story today—is interwoven with the life of Christ in the Bible. Piece together each of the narratives in the Old and New Testaments to see how God has grafted your life onto the beautiful saving life of Christ.

9 a.m. Thursday Women's Bible study: “Experiencing Contagious Joy” - join us as we explore what Scripture has to say about our true source of joy, giving thanks in all circumstances and having a joy that is actually radiant. We will examine what the Bible says about joy being our strength and how we enter into joy each day. In the end, we will discover how joy is infectious, transmittable, spreadable and catching - in a word, contagious!

“Main Street Living North” TV Program News

A month ago, I wrote about the twin towers in New York City destroyed by terrorists 22 years ago. Today, as I prepare this newsletter for November, I am watching the news reporting on the war between Israel and Hamas. We read in Matthew 24: “Jesus answered: “Watch out that no one deceives you ... You will hear of wars and rumors of wars but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains ... Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.” Our MSL Media Ministry is a part of the preaching of the gospel to the world! By the power of God's Word and the working of the Holy Spirit through it, stand firm!

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. God's blessing in Christ!

November pastors and sermons are as follows:

Nov. 5: Rev. Karl Weber, St. John Lutheran Church, Ottertail and St. Paul Lutheran Church, Richville, MN, presents the message: “The Blessed” based on Mark 5:1-12. *This Is the Life:* “The Deadly Pen.”

Nov. 12: Rev. Kent Borglum, St. John Lutheran Church, Montevideo, MN, presents the message: “God's Word For All Who Grieve” based on I Thessalonians 4:13-18. *This Is the Life:* “Transition.”

Nov. 19: Rev. Christopher Neuendorf, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Bottineau, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Rugby and Immanuel Lutheran Church, Willow City, presents the message: “Using Our Talents Well” based on Matthew 25:14-30. *This Is the Life:* “Senior Citizen.”

Nov. 26: Rev. Brian Doel, Our Savior Lutheran Church, Minot, presents the message: “The Abundant Position of Christ” based on Matthew 14:13-21. *This Is the Life:* “The Gift.”



Grace Lutheran School News

- A Celebration of Grace dinner and auction will be held Friday, Nov. 10. Silent auctions will open on our website on Nov. 5. We have many wonderful items, perhaps even some Christmas gifts for your family and friends! Teacher ticket sponsorships are still available as well. If you can't make it to the event, please consider a donation through the auction link on our website to fund curriculum that allows our students to be academic leaders.
- The new GLS website address is www.glsfargo.org. (The old address redirects to the new one.)
- All families are invited to Grace's Winter Festival from 12-3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2. Come for an afternoon of crafts, games, treats, and Christmas merriment. If you can volunteer, please contact Amy Hirsch at amy.hirsch@glsfargo.org.
- No school Nov. 22, 23 and 24



Growing Together in Grace

As of October 17, GTIG has raised nearly \$849,000, and the GTIG capital improvement campaign is moving forward. The construction committee, architect, engineers, PACE, LCEF and the fundraising committee are All busy with meetings and decisions as the project becomes reality. GTIG will continue to fundraise until the project is fully funded between \$1.25 and \$1.5 million.

The GTIG fundraising committee would like to add new faces to the team. If you have a passion for GLS, the fundraising committee could use your help and expertise. If you would like to pledge toward the capital improvement campaign, contact Amy Hirsch at 701-232-7747 or amy.hirsch@glsfargo.org. This project also has a Vanco portal at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZHMF>.



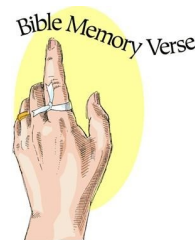
Congregational Memory Verse Challenge

Nov. 5: Revelation 21:4 - He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.

Nov. 12: 1 Peter 1:24-25 - The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord remains forever.

Nov. 19: Colossians 4:2 - Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.

Nov. 26: Romans 8:38-39 - For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.



Beautiful Savior Christmas Programs

Preschool through Third Grade Christmas Practice

Christmas program practice for the younger children will begin Sunday, Nov. 5. Practices will be held during Sunday School. Please register your student for the program as soon as possible. Registration forms are on the website or in the narthex. Their program will be at 8:15 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 17.

Fourth through Sixth Grade Christmas Practice

Our Christmas practices for fourth-sixth-grade students will begin Sunday, Nov. 5. Practices will be held during Sunday School.

Please register your student for the program as soon as possible. Registration forms are on the website or in the narthex. Their program will be at 10:45 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 17.

All students are needed to make the programs a success. You can call the office or Stacy Knudson at 306-4302 with questions.



OCC Packing Party 9:30 a.m. until done, Sunday, Nov. 19.

Everyone is welcome. Bring your family and friends!

We will pack 300 shoe box gifts. Every box is an opportunity for a child to experience God's love for them and to learn about Jesus!

Enjoy fellowship, treats, and lunch too!

"Follow Your Box" option for \$10 per box. Find out what country your box goes to!

Volunteers needed for OCC Packing Party:

- Set up on Nov. 18: Adults and teens to set up tables, sort and arrange items and decorate.
- Party help on Nov. 19: Adults and older teens to work sign-in table, take photos, move boxes and more.

Sign up sheet on the OCC table in the Narthex or email Jennifer at rnikrause@yahoo.com

Items Still Needed for OCC Boxes:

- Toys of all kinds. Especially: stuffed animals, Lego type sets, soccer ball with pump, games (chess, checkers, dominos, Jenga, jacks, marbles, cards, etc.), plastic animal play sets, cars and vehicle sets, pretend play sets
- Toothbrushes - child or adult size
- Combs or hair brushes
- Pencils - No. 2, pencil sharpeners, pencil pouches or pencil boxes
- Scissors - adult size
- Water bottles or sturdy plastic cups
- Cinch sacks or bags - something for a child to carry their things in

See the Amazon wish list. These can be shipped directly to the church: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/PAMPUJDWMOS9?ref=wl_share.



November Youth Events

DESTINATION UNKNOWN: Where will the youth go this week?

Join us and find out! Every Wednesday after confirmation class, youth in grades 6-12 can participate in a youth group adventure from 7:30-9 p.m. Each week, we will travel to a different surprise destination where we will have an activity and short devotion. We will return to church for games, snacks and faith sharing. For more information, see Pastor Chris.

- Wednesday, Nov. 1** - from 7:30-9 p.m. - LYF for grades 6-12
Wednesday, Nov. 8 - from 7:30-9 p.m. - LYF for grades 6-12
Wednesday, Nov. 15 - from 7:30-9 p.m. - LYF for grades 6-12
Wednesday, Nov. 29 - from 7:30-9 p.m. - LYF for grades 6-12



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 is available by appointment.

Worship Schedule:

Sunday at 8:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. 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. Pastor Chris is 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

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ENLIGHTEN is a
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L-N Mike Sellden

O-R Adam Tykwinski

S Don Schroeder

T-Z Patrik Tostenson

Elders are assigned families based on last name



Scan the code to access
the BSLC website.

Other Volunteers

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