



October 2023

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Because of Jesus, We Don't Hide From Sin; We Hide in God

By Pastor Chris

After the fall into sin, a terrible realization swept over Adam and Eve. They had never experienced shame before, but it now consumed them. They responded by feebly covering themselves and withdrawing from God's presence, hiding from Him as He sought them in the Garden of Eden. Knowing full well what had happened, God questions Adam, who does not own up to his part in this disastrous turn of events. Instead, the man shifts the blame to Eve and even God Himself: "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate," (Genesis 3:12).

What do you do when your mistakes produce disastrous results? Shift the blame? Deny? Withdraw? Isolate? On some level, this is understandable. Mistakes come with consequences; we can lose standing, trust and even

(Continued on Page 2.)

BSLC Stand Against Homelessness Oct. 14-15

All youth, their families and members of the congregation are invited to experience what it is like to be homeless for a day. Participants are asked to sleep outside in a cardboard box, fast for 24 hours and learn more about the problem of homelessness in the community and the resources available to assist those in need.



The event starts at noon on Saturday, Oct. 14, and concludes at noon Sunday, Oct. 15. Registration forms are available in the narthex or on the church website. Contact Pastor Chris for more information.

Voting Members to Fill Out Self-study by Oct. 9

During the voters' meeting on Sunday, Sept. 17, an overwhelming majority voted to go forward with calling another pastor. As part of the process of calling a pastor, Beautiful Savior will undergo a congregational self-study. This study will help identify the reasons the congregation exists, what needs the congregation should address and help prioritize the characteristics, skills and preferences the next pastor should have. All this information will help the district president to compile a call list with pastors who would fit the congregation's style, emphases and needs. All voting members are encouraged to fill out the survey so they can have input and ownership in this process. The deadline to fill out the survey is Oct. 9. Please check your junk mail folder as it may have gone there.

Because of Jesus, We Don't Hide From Sin; We Hide in God

(Continued from Page 1.)

relationships. Because our bosses, co-workers, family and neighbors might not respond to mistakes with understanding, compassion and patience, it becomes easy to behave like Adam and Eve when we are at fault for something.

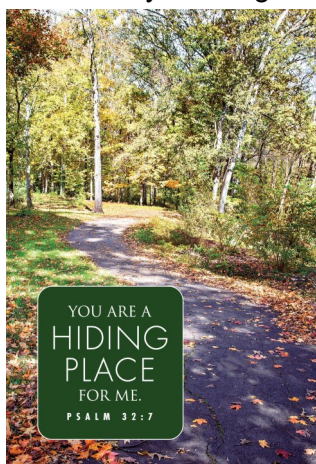
It may seem counterintuitive to go before a holy God with our sins and openly confess them. But this is exactly what God desires. As we do so, something amazing happens. David expresses it this way: "Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit," (Psalm 32:1-2). "I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,' and you forgave the iniquity of my sin," (Psalm 32:5)

God pronounced judgment against Adam and Eve for their sin, but He also promised His grace – His undeserved favor -- which He would demonstrate by sending a Savior to crush the devil and to bring mankind back to Himself, God accomplished this by sending Jesus, true God and true man, to keep the law in your place, suffer and die in your place and rise to life again, overcoming sin, death and the devil. In Jesus, God responds in mercy and love to your sins and mistakes.

Because of God's great steadfast love and mercy toward sinners, David tells God: "You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance," (Psalm 32:7). David knows of his sinful condition, yet he proclaims that God is his hiding place. In other words, he knows sin, shortcomings and mistakes cannot be solved by hiding from God, but rather hiding in God. Finding protection and absolution from sin and shame does not come from withdrawing and isolating yourself from Him, but rather, drawing near to His gracious presence.

Psalms 31 identifies our hiding place in God as the place where God promised to dwell with His people. In the Old Testament, God did exactly that in the tabernacle and later the temple. In Jesus, our Lord has promised to be with us through Word and Sacrament with the express purpose to forgive us, renew us and lead us. According to God's promise, we come into God's presence with joy, confidence and thanksgiving, knowing and believing that God shields us from the sentence and shame of sin, death and the devil through Jesus Christ, our Lord. We approach God together with spiritual songs, hymns and prayers, joyfully hearing and proclaiming "shouts of deliverance." We join David in saying: Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD. Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!" (Psalm 32:10-11).

Pastor Chris



Beautiful Savior Leaders Needed

Music Ministry: Beautiful Savior is in need of music ministry leaders for adult choir, Crossfire, children's Sunday School and Christmas program.

Memorial Committee: We are looking for volunteers who would be interested in helping us select items to purchase with memorial donations.

Evangelism Director: We are looking for a volunteer who would be interested in serving as evangelism director.

Please prayerfully consider if you could share your gifts, talents and step up in any of these positions. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Chris or the church office.

Portals of Prayer Available in Narthex

The October-December Portals of Prayer are now available in the narthex.

Sunday Morning Treats

Members can sign up to bring two dozen treats, serve and cleanup during fellowship on Sunday mornings.

Weddings

Sept. 2:

Brandon Kilber and
Gracynn Young



BSLC Treasurer's Report General Operating Fund

<u>Oper. Fund</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Contributions	35,899	242,932
Expense	<u>23,487</u>	<u>249,733</u>
Surplus/(Shortfall)	12,412	(6,801)

LWML Sunday Oct. 1

Help celebrate LWML Sunday on Oct. 1 by wearing purple! The mite box will be out at both services. Please support mission grants by dropping your loose change, cash or checks into the box. Special treats will be served in the fellowship hall between services.

LWML Celebration of the Seasons Fall Brunch



The Beautiful Savior LWML will host a fall brunch at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 14. It will start with a shop n' drop auction and table preview at 9:30 a.m. The program starts at 10 a.m. with musical selections from Paula Larsen and a short presentation by Kirk Rosin on the Orphan Grain Train Ukrainian Relief. This will be followed by a brunch and a special donation to Orphan Grain Train.

If you are interested in hosting a table, you can sign up in the narthex or call the church office.

If you are willing to donate a shop'n drop auction item, contact Kim in the church office.

F-M Lutherans for Life Fall Dessert Banquet

The Lutherans for Life Fall Dessert Banquet will be at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 1, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1258 Broadway, Fargo. Guest speaker will be Kim Laube, who will speak on "Satan is a Liar! Death is NOT the Answer." To Register, you may sign up in the narthex or contact Gail Waagen at 701-306-6283.

Trunk or Treat Oct. 25

Can't wait to dress up and get some candy? Beautiful Savior will be hosting its annual Trunk or Treat from 6:30-8 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 25. Pre-school to fifth-graders, can come show off your costume, grab some treats and play games in a fun, safe environment. Sixth-through twelfth-graders can decorate a car and hand out candy from your trunk. Adults can help with games, crafts, treats, or decorate a car and pass out candy too. We need 20 cars to make this a success. Sign up in the church office or contact Pastor Chris for more details!



October is Pastor Appreciation Month

We would like to pray for Pastor Chris every day in October. Please sign up for a day to uphold him in prayer. You may send him a note or card expressing your thanks for all he does and let him know that you are praying for him; you could include a small gift card to a restaurant, grocery store or even Scheels. You can sign up by calling the church office or by using the link to the sign-up genius on the church website.



New Member Corner

Adam, Rebekah, Hunter, Lena, Brytta and Ajay Vonasek recently moved to Fargo from Grand Forks. Adam got a new job outside of law enforcement and God opened the door for them to move to Fargo. They decided to join Beautiful Savior because they were excited about the Sunday School program. They enjoy gardening, water and nerf gun fights or anything that allows for family fun time together. Their favorite Bible verse is Isaiah 43:2 - "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you." God has not abandoned us—His promises to sustain us through many difficult times has shown bright. Welcome to Beautiful Savior, Vonasek family!



Welcome
Our New
Members

BSLC Congregational Stand Against Homelessness

Join our congregation's fight against homelessness in the F-M area by bringing canned goods throughout the month of October to fill the shelves of the Dorothy Day food pantry. Items needed include: canned fruits and vegetables, side dishes, macaroni and cheese, soups, pasta sauce, salt, pepper, seasonings, miscellaneous baking items (brown sugar, frosting, baking mixes, etc.) and snack items.



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, Oct. 12 and 26. 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, Oct. 18. ND District Business Manager, Tami Ulland will give a presentation on her trip to Kenya. We will also celebrate Oktoberfest, so bring a German 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 - Harvest is in full swing. Join us as we reap God's bounty. 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. 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, Oct. 19. All women are invited to attend. Your participation in LWML is a great way to make new friends and serve the Lord.

On Your Mark! Get Set! Open Your Bibles!

Many Christians have considered challenging themselves to read through the Bible in one year. LWML is offering you that very opportunity! The Gospel Outreach Committee has created a monthly reading plan to guide you. The link can be found on the church website under the Resources/Links tab. The Gospel Outreach Committee prays you are richly blessed as you spend time in God's Word each day. Open your Bible and go!



Lutheran Family Service Grief Workshop

Dr. Mark Vande Braak Ph. D, FT, MT-BC thanatologist and music Therapist, will share his vast experience in helping individuals, families, and communities in the face of tragedy from accidents, shootings, natural disaster and suicide. This event takes place at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 14, at St. Andrew Lutheran Church, West Fargo. A free will offering will be taken.



Congregational Memory Verse Challenge

Oct. 1: Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Oct. 8: 1 Timothy 1:15 - The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.

Oct. 15: John 8:31-32 - So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Oct. 22: Matthew 11:28 - Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Oct. 29: Ephesians 2:8-9 - For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.



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.

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.

Life in Christ will take you through the Bible chronologically, giving you an important overview of the historical retellings so that you can understand the timeline of His Word. See how God is working in your day-to-day through each of the Gospel books. As you piece together how these narrative threads are woven into one big picture, you will also see that the faith and Church are not about the individuals, but rather, it’s forever pointing back to the story of God’s Son and His sacrifice for humanity.

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! Call Donna Ceroll at 701-232-2464 if interested.

“Main Street Living North” TV Program News

As I write this newsletter article on Sept. 11 of 2023, it’s hard to believe that 22 years have now gone by since the Twin Towers in New York City were destroyed. Many of the news programs are remembering the horrific actions flowing from mankind’s sinful hearts which killed and injured so many people! Holy Scripture tells us that “Out of the heart comes evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft false testimony, slander,” (Matthew 15:19). But thanks be to God through Jesus Christ, there is power in God’s word to renew our fallen hearts and minds and to forgive repentant hearts!

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!

October pastors and sermons are as follows:

Oct. 1: Rev. Justin Whitmore, St. John’s Lutheran Church, Perham, MN, presents the message: “Authority Comes from God,” based on Matthew 21:23b. *This Is the Life:* “Like Father Like Son.”

Oct. 8: Rev. Brock Schmeling, Trinity Lutheran Church, Great Bend and Peace Lutheran Church, Barney, presents the message: “Yet the Lord set His heart in love,” based on Deuteronomy 10:12-13. *This Is the Life:* “Families Come First.”

Oct. 15: Rev. Jeff Ross, St. John Lutheran Church, Garfield, MN, presents the message: “Take Heart!” based on Matthew 9:1-8. *This Is the Life:* “Conspiracy of Silence.”

Oct. 22: Rev. Robert Hill, St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Wimbledon, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Kensal, Our Savior Lutheran Church, Pettibone, and Redeemer Lutheran Church, Woodworth, presents the message: “Render to God and Caesar” based on Matthew 22:21. *This Is the Life:* “Big Account.”

Oct. 29: Guest Speaker. *This Is the Life:* “The Sexton.”



Thursday morning Women’s Bible study group

Grace Lutheran School News

Mark your calendars for A Celebration of Grace dinner and auction on Friday, Nov. 10. Social hour starts at 5:30 p.m. with dinner and a program with live auctions to follow. Tickets are available on the school's website, www.gracelutheranschoolfargo.com. If you would like to donate an item or an experience to the live or silent auction, please contact Amy Hirsch at 701-232-7747 or amy.hirsch@glfargo.org.

Upcoming dates:

Oct. 19 and 20 – No School



Growing Together in Grace

It is with great pleasure and thanksgiving that we can announce that the Growing Together in Grace capital improvement campaign has surpassed the 66 percent fundraising threshold. As of mid-September, the campaign has raised \$845,605 of \$1.25 million. The Board of Education has approved taking the next step in the campaign. This is an exciting time in the history of Grace Lutheran School.

GTIG will continue its work until the project can be fully funded. If you feel called to support the campaign, please contact Amy Hirsch at 701-232-7747 or amy.hirsch@glfargo.org. Thank you to all who have pledged or sent gifts in the early stages of this campaign. God has worked mightily to bring the project to the next step.

Save the Date for OCC Packing Party

Save the date for the OCC Packing Party: 9:30 a.m. until done, Sunday, Nov. 19. Everyone is welcome. Bring your whole family or friends.

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, check boxes and more.

WOW Toys Needed For 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. Other requested items are: washcloths, toothbrushes, combs or hairbrushes, any size children's socks, boys 2T-5 and 10-14 underwear, size 2T-5 children's shirts or outfits, water bottles or sturdy plastic cups, cinch sacs or canvas bags, hair ties or bows, boys' sunglasses, stuffed animals, soccer balls with pumps, any other toys or fun items for girls and boys ages 2-14. All items must be new. A complete list of gift ideas and the Do Not Include list can be found on the donation box in the narthex or on the church website. Email Jennifer at: rjnkrause@yahoo.com with any questions.

Please place all donations in the box in the church narthex.

For more ideas, see the Amazon Wish List. These can be shipped directly to the church:
https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/PAMPUJDWMOS9?ref=wl_share.

For more ideas, see the Walmart Registry:
<https://www.walmart.com/registry/ER/6cbc0d8a-84a1-443a-9a6c-ce782661c2d0>

If you would like to contribute items for shoeboxes but do not want to do the shopping, sponsor a bulk purchase of soccer balls and pumps, order pre-printed OCC shoeboxes, or donate storage totes and shelving contact with Jennifer Krause.

Visit the official OCC website for more information and shoebox gift ideas or to make a donation for the cost of shipping:

<https://samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>





Sunday School News

- The PreK through third-graders will be singing at both worship services on Sunday, Oct. 8. Please have your student at the church by 8 a.m. for a short practice. They are welcome to sing at one or both services.
- Third-graders, if you were not able to attend Rally Sunday and have not received your Bible, please stop in the church office and pick it up.



October 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, please see Pastor Chris.

Wednesday, Oct. 4 - from 7:30-9 p.m. - LYF for grades 6-12

Wednesday, Oct. 18 - from 7:30-9 p.m. - LYF for grades 6-12

Sunday, Oct. 8: The Zone LYF Bonfire and Hayride - The bonfire and hayride has been rescheduled for 6-8 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 8, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Sabin, MN. The registration form is available on the church website or in the narthex.

Saturday, Oct. 14 to Sunday, Oct. 15: BSLC Stand Against Homelessness - All youth and their families are invited to participate in BSLC's Stand Against Homelessness. Participants are asked to sleep outside in a makeshift cardboard shelter, fast for 24 hours, learn more about the problem of homelessness in the community and the resources available. The event lasts from noon on Saturday until noon on Sunday. Registration forms are available in the narthex or on the church website. For more information, please see Pastor Chris.

Thursday, Oct. 19, through Saturday, Oct. 21: District Jr. High Gathering - Join middle school students from across the state for the district junior high youth gathering at the Ramada Inn, Fargo. This gathering is geared to students in grades 6-12. Those in grade nine and up are invited (and encouraged) to serve as teen counselors. Registration forms will be available in the narthex or on the church website. For more information, please see Pastor Chris.

Wednesday, Oct. 25: Trunk or Treat - All kids from the congregation and their families are invited to come to church from 6:30 - 8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 25, for Beautiful Savior's Trunk or Treat. For those in preschool through fifth grade, come show off your costume and grab some treats in a fun, safe environment. For those in sixth grade through twelfth grade, we need you to sponsor a car (we need at least 20 trunks) where you will hand out candy from your trunk. Join us for this fun event!



BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Contact Us:

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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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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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