



Newsletter from Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Fargo North Dakota

February 2012

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You are a Witness

By Pastor Dave

"Did you see it?"

That is a question we hear asked over and over again. It may be regarding a sporting event like the championship game that the Bison football team won on Jan. 7. It may be a movie. It may be a child taking his or her first steps. There are countless things that we witness and observe throughout our lives. If other people have not had the opportunity to see them, we have the opportunity to share those things that excite us or those things that are important to us.

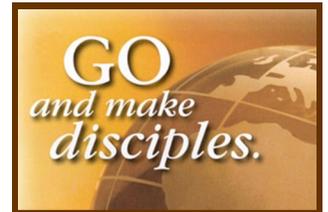
We talk to people about many things. Therefore, it should not surprise us when God asks us to speak with others about what He has done for all people through His Son, Jesus Christ. We are His witnesses.

Someone once said that a Christian does not choose whether or not to be a witness to the faith and to Jesus Christ. Every Christian, by virtue of their baptism, already is a witness. It's just a matter of what kind of witness you will be.

Peter said much the same thing in Acts 10:39-42 when he wrote,

"We are witnesses of everything He did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem ... He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that He is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead."

(Continued on next page)



Midweek Lenten Services begin on February 22



Midweek Lenten Schedule

Starting on Wednesday, Feb. 22

6-6:45 p.m. Soup & Sandwich Suppers

7 p.m. Lenten Worship Services

(See page 2 for more information on Lent).

**BSLC Tenth Cabaret
7 p.m. Sunday, March 4**

(See page 2 for more information)

Last Chance to Take Directory Pictures

Lifetouch has opened up Tuesday, Feb. 7, and Wednesday, Feb. 8, for any BSLC members who have not been able to schedule a time to have their pictures taken for our new pictorial directory. You can go to www.beautifulsaviorfargo.com and follow the link to sign up.



We would like to thank all those who already have had their pictures taken.



You are a Witnesses

(Continued from page 1)



Now, to be sure, you and I are not the eyewitnesses Peter spoke of almost 2,000 years ago. Nonetheless, we are witnesses because we have been given the eyewitness accounts about Jesus through the writings of Holy Scripture. We have all been encouraged to testify to these things (2 Timothy 1:8-9). The only question is, "What kind of witnesses will we be?"

I can answer that question very easily. Sometimes we provide a good witness through our words and acts of kindness. At other times, we present a poor witness through our words and actions.

I am so grateful that our heavenly Father continues to show His love to us even when we fail in our mission of witnessing to His goodness with others. This grace of God moves us all the more to want to talk about Him with others. We don't need to live in dread for fear of messing things up. We live in the confidence that God continues to love and care about us and others.

I encourage you to be aware of the fact that you are witnesses for God. I also ask you to show others by your words and actions that we have a loving and caring God. I would love to have people ask others, "Did you see it?" And when they ask, "See what?" they respond by saying, "The love of God shining in them."

Blessings!

Pastor Dave

The Hands of our Savior Midweek Lenten Series

We use our hands a lot. Think about how we use our hands throughout the day. They play a vital role for us whether we are at work, at home, at school or at play. It is even common for us to gesture with our hands during conversations.



During this Lenten season, we will focus on the hands of Jesus. By looking at His hands, we will have the opportunity to see not only how Jesus helped people in the past, but also how he continues to be our greatest helper. Then, having been touched by the love of God, we will explore how we can use our hands, lips, hearts and lives to help others.

Midweek Lenten services will begin Wednesday, Feb. 22. A soup and sandwich supper will be served before each service. Join us for fellowship and the opportunity to be renewed in your faith through the beautiful hands of our Savior.

"How beautiful on the mountains
are the feet of those who bring good
news, who proclaim peace, who
bring good tidings, who proclaim
salvation, who say to Zion,
'Your God reigns!'"

I s a i a h 5 2 : 7

Sunday Bible Study

"You are Witnesses"

9:30 a.m.

The Scripture gives countless examples of ordinary people who are powerful witnesses to the things God has done, not only for all of humankind, but for them, individually. On Sunday mornings, we will examine various people to see how they witnessed to their God and Savior. We will also seek to apply how we may follow their example in our lives.

Tuesday Bible Study

Book of Hebrews

7 p.m.

We are continuing our look at the book of Hebrews on Tuesday evenings. This study is arranged so that you may join in at any time. The challenges facing God's people are similar to what they were 2,000 years ago. Come and be encouraged in your faith.

10 years of BSLC Cabaret

Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 4, as we will be celebrating 10 years of our Beautiful Savior cabaret. The Beautiful Savior praise team will take a journey back in time to perform some of their



favorite selections from cabarets-past, as well as roll out some new selections. Join us and some cabaret alumni for a fun evening starting at 7 p.m.

Leadership Openings

In March we will be holding our yearly election of church officers. Our church is able to share God's word and minister to our members and the community at-large due, in part, to those who volunteer and are selected to fill these leadership positions. This year, we will be choosing members for the following positions: elders, RRLSA board member, director of education, director of church properties, treasurer and secretary. Please prayerfully consider how you could help your congregation fulfill its mission. Those who are interested should speak to either of the pastors or a member of the nominating committee: Tim Deitemeyer, Brian Breitbarth or Mike Schlichtmann.



Donations sought for Automatic Door

At the last Church Council meeting, it was agreed to install automatic door openers on the front doors to assist people entering our building. Because this expenditure was not in the budget, we will be taking donations for this. The cost for installing these doors will be around \$4000. If you have any questions about this, please contact one of the pastors or the church office.



Cradle Roll

Parents, don't forget to check our Cradle Roll Wall hanging in the narthex for up-to-date informational newsletters and cards for your baptized infant each month. After three years, the infant "graduates" and can attend Sunday school. We hope this program will help guide the parent and their infant with their spiritual growth until the child can become a Sunday school student.



LWML News

It's time to stock the food pantry! Please bring non-perishable food items to the church to be given to families who stop in the office in need of food. This includes peanut butter, crackers, cereal, pudding cups, granola bars and individually wrapped snacks and drinks that families can eat when they are traveling or when they do not have additional ingredients or stoves to cook food. Any extra items after our pantry is well-stocked (toilet paper, drinks, or individual snacks) will be given to the churches downtown that are serving as shelters for homeless people this winter. Thanks for your donations!



Our T-shirt dresses and pillowcase dresses that we created last year have been distributed around the world, from Ft. Totten, ND, to Liberia and Sudan in Africa, and it's time to get the sewing machines going again. Please join us on Thursday, Feb. 2, in the Fellowship Hall any time from 5 -9 p.m. (Come and go as your schedule allows). Please bring a small item to share for the potluck supper and scissors and sewing machine if you have one.

The next planning meeting for Lutheran Women in Missions will be Sunday, at noon on Feb. 12. If you wish, please bring a salad to share.

The women's Bible study "God Is in the Laundry Room" is held every other Thursday at either 9-10 a.m. or 7-8 p.m. Mark your calendars this month for Feb. 2 and Feb. 16 and please join us. It's not too late to get in the Word!! Books are available in the office for \$9.



If you missed going Christmas caroling, mark your calendars for Sunday, March 11, at 1:30 p.m. Everyone—men, women, children—is invited along for a hymn sing at Good Samaritan Home, so please join the fun!

LWML Prayer Service

The LWML prayer service (open to all) will be at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 11, at St. Andrew Lutheran Church in West Fargo, ND. Coffee and treats will be served during a fellowship time after the conclusion of the service.

Baptisms

Jan. 8 - Sophia Marie Otto, daughter of Casey and Christina Otto, born June 22, 2011. Her sponsors were Travis and Lacey Kuhn and Ryan and Jennifer Otto.



Deaths

Richard (Dick) Tewksbury passed away on Jan. 25, 2012. He leaves his wife Juanita (Nita), son Scott, two daughters, Deborah and Kathy, and their spouses; seven grandchildren and one great grandchild. His funeral was held on Jan. 28 at Beautiful Savior. He was buried at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Edgeley. Please remember Nita and her family in your prayers.

Quilting Time

The ladies will be gathering at 9 a.m. on Feb. 9 and 23 to quilt. Anyone and everyone is welcome to come for an hour or all day!



Save Postage Stamps

Bring in your postage stamps. Do not cut them; bring in the whole envelope and put in the box outside the office. The money we receive for stamps goes to missions.

Save Your Coupons

Bring in those coupon inserts from your newspaper that you don't want. Even outdated coupons, up to six months outdated, can be used by members of our military. Bring in the inserts and place them in the box by the LWML kiosk by the water fountain. Thanks for your support of our military families.

New Member Corner

BSLC welcomes Kayla Muehler to our church. Kayla moved here from Hankinson to attend college and settled here after graduation. She was drawn to BSLC by our worship music and also was recommended here by a member from her home church. She is the daughter of a church organist and loves all the hymns. She enjoys going "home" to Hankinson to her parents' farm and spending time with family and friends. She also enjoys shopping in her spare time. Her favorite Bible verse is her confirmation verse: "For by grace ye are saved by faith, it is the gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast." We are glad to have you here!



Memorials to Beautiful Savior

In Memory of Dick Tewksbury

Ed & Carol Herrmann

Steven & Maxine Rust

In Memory of Ted Swiontek

Esther Wallum

(This was accidentally left off the memorial list in Jan.)

Gold Club Luncheon

Noon on Wednesday, Feb. 15

Are you 55 or older or retired? Our Gold Club is right for you! Bring a dish to share at our potluck at noon on Wednesday, Feb. 15. We gather for about an hour to enjoy good food and fellowship.



BSLC Coffee Club

BSLC members continue to meet at 9 a.m. every Friday. It's a time for fellowship and getting to know other Beautiful Savior members. This is for both men and women of any age. If you are free any Friday, please join us at Village Inn on the corner of 32nd Avenue South and 25th Street, Fargo.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Join us!



The church needs people to take hold of God-given courage

by Pastor Chris



In the Bible, Joshua faced a large task. The Israelites stood on the cusp of entering the promised land after wandering nearly 40 years in the desert. What great expectation and anticipation there must have been! However, their way did not stand unopposed. The Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites and Jebusites already had settled in the land and enjoyed the natural resources and beauty the land provided. Settling would not be easy.

If this were not enough, Israel's long-time leader, Moses, had died. Under God's command, guidance and power, Moses led the people out of Egypt, parted the Red Sea and set the people on course to enter this new land. Moses had gone up on Mt. Sinai to receive the law from God himself. He had seen God's glory from the rear. He had met with God face to face as a man talks with a friend. He wrote the first five books of the Bible!

What a hard act to follow.

It would have been easy for Joshua to fall into self-pity, self-doubt or to second-guess and question God's plan. Joshua could have decided to let someone else take his place of leadership in the assembly. Despite all the negative things on which Joshua could have dwelled, he took solace in God's promises. He remembered how God had brought His people to this point in history. God also helped bolster Joshua's confidence. In Joshua 1:9, God reminds His servant: "Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified or discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

It is important to know that Joshua also had direction from God, who reminded His servant to carefully consider the book of the law that had recorded God's words. "Meditate on it day and night," God said. "So That you may be careful to do everything written in it," (Joshua 1:8a).

Today, we are much like ancient Israel as we find ourselves in a land filled with different ideas about theology and different ideas about salvation. Even among Christians, wide debate continues regarding

major components of doctrine.

That is why the study of God's word remains vital to the church and its identity. We must be prepared to stand against all the influences that seek to twist and distort God's word. At our core, we must be ready to defend the doctrine of Christ crucified for the forgiveness of sins. This salvation comes as a gift that we receive by faith. Therefore, we must sweep aside any other "gospel" that seeks to take hold. We must also be true to God's will for our lives as His people. On one hand, we must defend against current movements that seek to compromise and change those things that God has instituted. For example, defending God's design of marriage and family is becoming increasingly unpopular as divorce and homosexuality become more common. On the other hand, we must defend equally against overzealous traditions and preferences (such as the demand to worship only from a hymnal) that clearly have no root in Scripture or our confessions.

As Christians today, we have a new mandate handed down to us by Jesus in the Great Commission: To go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing and teaching them everything Jesus has commanded us.

As we face a world increasingly hostile to the true Gospel, courage can be in short supply among us. However, our mandate is not to retreat from God's word, but to embrace it and take solace in it. For the very living breathing God goes with us. One rock star commented, "Don't ask God to bless what you are doing; Do the work of God because it is already blessed." Although that is true to some extent, we know the Gospel message can draw ire, rage, disrespect and condemnation. But as God's assurance to Joshua makes clear, courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the conviction that something else is more important than fear.

May God give us courage by remembering the Gospel's vital importance to a broken, dying world.

Pastor Chris

Grace Lutheran School News

Reflecting God's Glory-GLS 2012 Auction Fundraiser

will be at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 25, at the Ramada Plaza-Crystal Ballroom. Plan now to join us and support your Lutheran school. Tickets are \$40 per person. See your RRLSA Board member or stop at the school office for tickets.



Know a great business owner? Have a craft project or talent that you'd love to donate? We're looking for items to sell at our annual auction and we need your help! We are doing our best to minimize multiple asks so if you are willing to contact a business or person please email Eric Johnson (ejohnson@meineckejohnsoncompany.com) to let him know how you can help! If you have an item for the auction, please bring it to the office anytime before Feb. 17.

Camp Grace 2012 - Are you looking for a fun place for your children to spend their summer days? GLS provides summer care for children ages 4-12. Current GLS teachers will run this program. Students will participate in lots of activities. Breakfast and lunch options are available. Camp Grace Registration Schedule: Jan. 15 – Open to former campers; Feb. 15 – Open to current GLS families; March 15– Open to the public.

Upcoming Open Houses: - GLS Pre-Kindergarten 4 & 5 year olds, 5-day, full day, M-F 8:30-3:10
Open House: Thurs., Feb. 2 4:30-6:30
1025 14th Ave. S, Fargo, ND 58103

Enrollment for 2012-203 School Year has begun

Registration already has begun for the next school year. We encourage families to prayerfully consider sending their children to Grace Lutheran School.

Tuition Assistance

Our congregation has set aside a certain amount of money to go to tuition support. Families who desire to receive tuition assistance are asked to sign a covenant agreement. Covenant agreements are available from the church office. The deadline for submitting the application is March 20.

ND District Convention

The ND District LCMS held their 56th convention Jan. 22-25 in Grand Forks. The theme was "Now You are the People of God: Faithful Pastors, Bold Witnesses, Empowered Stewards." 91 voting delegates were present: 43 pastoral and 48 laymen. Rev. Dr. James Baneck was re-elected as district president. Elected as first vice president from the west was Rev. Arie Bertsch and as second vice president from the east was Rev. Clark Jahnke. Circuit Counselors elected were: Rev. David Wagner—east; Rev. Scott Ramey—northeast; Rev. Douglas Wanderer—southeast; Rev. Richard Biberdorf—central; Rev. Carlyle Roth—northwest; and Rev. Michael Wolters-southwest.

Elected to the board of directors were: Rev. Alan Eppen, secretary; Leon Bladow, treasurer; Rev. Thomas Marcis, Rev. Toby Heller; Mr. Robert Bauer, Mr. Michael Janke, Mr. Robert Drees, Mr. John Riley and Mr. Meryln Mindeman.

Also voted in was the adoption of policy based governance for the ND District.

The delegation also affirmed their desire to work with Minnesota North District in financially supporting the building of three orphanages in Kenya and to reach out to North Dakota's native American population. Also the need to continue to reach out to all North Dakotans in the wake of our recent natural disasters, by prayer and giving of both time and financial support.



Youth Praise Band

Our Youth Praise Band will practice at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 4. Our other practices will be at 6:30 pm on Sundays, February 12, 19 and 26. If you have any questions, please call Ramsey at 866-5403.

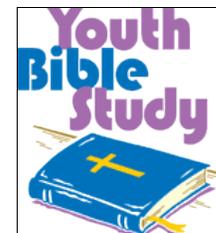
Assistant Youth Director Sought

Beautiful Savior is seeking a part-time assistant youth director to help with high school and junior high ministry opportunities. These include planning and teaching Bible studies on Sunday morning, assisting during youth group on Wednesdays and participating in youth events as schedules permit. This position would be for between five and 10 hours per week. If interested, please see one of the pastors.

February Youth Events

Upcoming Bible Study Opportunities

- Wednesday, Feb. 1** – from 7:45 to 9 p.m. Youth Group for grades 7-12
Wednesday, Feb. 8 – from 7:45 to 9 p.m. Destination Unknown for grades 7-12
Wednesday, Feb. 15 – from 7:45 to 9 p.m. Youth Group for grades 7-12
Wednesday, Feb. 22 – from 7:45 to 9 p.m. Destination Unknown for grades 7-12
Wednesday, Feb. 29 – from 7:45 to 9 p.m. Youth Group for grades 7-12



Upcoming Fellowship Events

Saturday, Feb. 4 – Andes Tower Hill Skiing and Snowboarding Trip. All families can come enjoy a day on the slopes Saturday, Feb. 4, near Alexandria. We will be leaving at 8 a.m. sharp from the Beautiful Savior parking lot and returning around 6 p.m. or so. We will attempt to carpool but will need drivers as well. Cost for the trip is \$20 if bringing your own equipment. If you need to rent, the costs are \$36 for skis, boots and poles and \$46 for snowboard and boots. SNOWBOARD RENTALS REQUIRE A PARENTS SIGNATURE! Meals will be on your own. Please fill out a form and return to Pastor Chris as soon as possible.

Friday, Feb. 17 – Junior High lock-In. All sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders are invited to a lock-in from 6 p.m. to midnight. We will have games, fellowship, Bible study and a trip to the Bowler for some rock and roll bowl. Cost is \$10 for bowling, shoe rental, as well as food and soda. Please fill out a form and return to Pastor Chris. Parents should pick up their kids from the Bowler on South University.

Sunday, Feb. 19 – Senior High “Bingo” Bowl. All senior high are invited for “Bingo Bowling” at the Bowler from 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 19. Bingo bowling adds a “spin” on the usual game as bowlers vie for prizes. Please bring a wrapped white elephant gift (something laying around the house that is in good condition but that you don’t want anymore). Cost is \$10 for bowling, shoe rental and snacks or food.

Tuesday, Feb. 21 – National Youth Gathering Meeting. Are you interested in gathering with 25,000 other young Lutherans over Fourth of July weekend 2013 in San Antonio, Texas? Come learn about the opportunity to grow in faith while enjoying uplifting speakers, bands and experiences. We will be meeting from 7-8 p.m. to discuss fund-raising opportunities. You must be a high schooler in the 2012-2013 school year or going into high school for the 2013-2014 school year to attend the gathering.

Upcoming Servant/Fund-Raising Events

Ongoing snack service at Homeless Shelter -- Jesus calls us to have mercy on those suffering around us, and Beautiful Savior is sponsoring a unique opportunity for acts of mercy in our community. All families can help battle homelessness and its effects in the F-M area. On Sunday, many community resources are closed, and hunger becomes an issue. We need volunteers to prepare snacks and meals for residents at the Gladys Ray Shelter, 1519 First Ave. N. in Fargo. Every week, we would like to provide – at minimum – one snack for the 36 residents of the shelter. If you would like to provide more in terms of a full meal, that also is encouraged. All food should be dropped off at 5:30 p.m. at the shelter or can be dropped off Sunday morning at the church. Sign up on the bulletin board located by the nursery or see Pastor Chris for more information.

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

2601 23rd Ave. SW ■ Fargo, ND 58103

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Contact Us

PHONE : (701) 293-1047
EMAIL: beautifulsavior@ideaone.net
WEB: www.beautifulsaviorfargo.com

Office Hours

9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday
9 a.m. - noon Friday

Additionally, Pastor Dave and Pastor Chris are available by appointment.

Sunday Schedule

8:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship
10:45 a.m. Traditional Worship
Sunday School and Bible Study
is held from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Holy Communion is celebrated on the first and third Sundays of each month.

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CHURCH STAFF

Pastor

David Wagner
701-293-1047

Associate Pastor

Chris Waldvogel
701-293-1047
701-893-6995

Administrative Assistant

Vicki Peihl
701-293-1047

Council Members

Chairman: Brad Cogdill 237-3821
Vice-Chair: Robert Gregerson 793-4845
Treasurer: Mike Herrmann 237-4820
Secretary: Theresa Gehler 241-9736
Properties: Scott Simonson 280-2552
Education: Dawn Thompson 233-6511
Education: Denise Doeling 237-9378
Stewardship: Mike Schlichtmann 235-6383
Evangelism: Connie Eggers 287-3789

Board of Elders

A-Bo Brian Breitbarth 293-0679
Br-D Maurice Brandt 235-3502
E-G Tim Deitemeyer 793-2220
H-K Jeff Abrahams 218-234-8592
L-N Pastor Paul 241-4610
O-R Terry Stevahn 298-6471
S Dave Eggers 218-287-3789
T-Z Steve Thielman 293-7933

Other Volunteers

LWML President: Rhonda Hoge 239-9800
Prayer Chain Coordinator: Shirley Nordstrom 277-1185
Sunday School: Dawn Thompson 233-6511
Choir Director: Ramsey Dahl 237-9009
Flower Coordinator: Mardi Schlichtmann 235-6383
RRLA Board Representatives: Carrie Berglind 371-3631
Jane Thielman 293-7933

THIS PUBLICATION

ENLIGHTEN is a
monthly publication
of Beautiful Savior
Lutheran Church.