



Newsletter from Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Fargo North Dakota

Dec. 2012

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New Email for Church
office@bslcfargo.org

OUR MISSION
is to share
God's message,
to grow in our faith,

Holiday Worship Schedule and December Events

Decorate the Church

9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 1

We invite everyone to come and help at 9 a.m. Saturday morning as we decorate our church for the Christmas season.



Midweek Advent Services

7 p.m. on Wednesdays,
Dec. 5, 12 and 19.

Take time to hear God's word during this busy time of year.

Advent Suppers

6 pm. Wednesday, Dec. 5
Soup and Sandwiches

6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec 12
Soup and Sandwiches
served by Youth

6 p.m. Wed. Dec. 19
Chili Cook-off



Children's Christmas Programs

Sunday, Dec. 16

9:30 a.m. "Light a Candle"
The Pre-K through 2nd grade give their Christmas program.

10:45 a.m. "A Rockin' Royal Christmas Practice"

A program put on by our third through sixth grade students.



Christmas Eve
Monday, Dec. 24
3:30 and 5 p.m.



Christmas Day
Tuesday, Dec. 25
10 a.m.

Lord's Supper
to be celebrated



Worship Schedule
revised on Dec. 23 & 30
Worship at 8:15 and 10:45 a.m.

We will hold two worship services on Sunday, Dec. 23 and 30. In place of our 9:30 a.m. service, we will have a time of fellowship.

December Voters' Meeting changed to Jan. 13



Please mark your calendars that the voters' meeting will be on Jan. 13. Normally the meeting is held in December but the 2013 budget is still being worked on by the committee.

Word from Pastor Dave



The Sights, Sounds and Message of Christmas

Christmas is a festive holiday, filled with cheerful decorations and colors. I think this is an appropriate way to celebrate Christmas. I also believe that the timing for the celebration of Christmas is beneficial for us who live up north. We are at that time of the year when the weather is cold, the hours of daylight are at a minimum and the land seems barren. Off-setting this dreariness is Christmas with all its bright colors and sounds. Above all, we have the message of Christmas that promises hope, joy and life.

One of the colors of Christmas is green. It is just about everywhere. It's in the garlands, in the wreathes and, of course, in the Christmas trees as well. It's a color that is meant to cheer you up because it speaks of the promise of life.



Among other things, green points ahead to springtime. A time when flowers bloom, trees blossom and the grass becomes green again. Christmas says with the color green and with the birth of a Savior that new life is just around the corner. And, at just the right time, everlasting life will replace death and decay.

St. Paul wrote about timing and about something to celebrate in his letter to the Galatians, "When the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law" (Galatians 4:4-5). When the time was right, God sent the promise of life into a world filled with death and decay. God had spent a great deal of time setting things up for Jesus to come in the flesh. His birth had been planned from the very beginning. Through His birth, life, death and resurrection, we are redeemed. This is worth celebrating in a special way at Christmas as well as on every day of our lives.

I pray that this Christmas would be a festive and joyful one for you. I encourage you to look around at the many sights, colors and sounds of Christmas. Remember that many of them are meant to point us to Jesus and to find comfort, hope and joy in Him.

Pastor Dave

Midweek Advent Worship Services

During our midweek services in December, we will focus on Christ Jesus, who is our hope, joy and peace. We are now in the season of the church



year which we call "Advent" (a word that means "coming"). It is a time when we can have the Holy Spirit prepare us through God's Word and Sacraments to celebrate Christ's first coming at Bethlehem and His second coming at the end of the world. Jesus Christ came to us as a baby. He will come to us as judge and Savior on the last day. Join us on Wednesdays as we seek to grow in knowing the hope, joy and peace Christ brings. You are also invited for our Advent Soup and Sandwich suppers before the worship services.

Sunday Morning Bible Study

From 9:40-10:30 a.m.

We invite you to join us for an adult Bible study class in the fellowship hall on Sunday mornings. Each week we explore topics applicable to our faith and life. Come early for a time of fellowship.

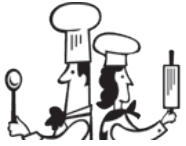


Nominating Committee

Election of officers will occur at the March voter's meeting and the nominating committee will be appointed in January. If you are interested in serving on the nominating committee, please contact either of the pastors or the congregation chairman, Brad Cogdill.

Christmas Baking for our Munchies for Missions

Have you had your thinking caps on? Have you been getting your baking supplies and your aprons and hats ready for the big



baking week of Dec. 2-7? We hope so. On Dec. 2, we will distribute the containers for the goodies for the LWML fundraiser

Munchies for Missions. Containers will be distributed at every service. Our goal is for every church family to bring in one, two or even three containers of goodies for our fundraiser. Please return the filled containers on Dec. 7. Your help is greatly appreciated. We are all members of the family of Beautiful Savior and by your help, you will spread Christ's love and ministry near and far and help make this event successful. May God bless the efforts of our upcoming event and we thank you for all your help.

Munchies for Missions

Munchies for Missions will be experienced on Dec. 8 at Beautiful Savior. There will be coffee and a donut/muffins café from 9-1. We encourage you to take a break from your holiday shopping and stop for a cup of coffee and a goodie. We will be playing Christmas music and your coffee will be served in holiday mugs. The Christmas goodies will be for sale from 9-4. There will be cookbooks for sale and silent auction bids for the quilts and other donated items. Donations are still welcome for the silent auction. All proceeds will go for mission projects including Sandy - East Coast Flood Relief, Ross Egger's Campus Crusade for Christ Ministry at Harvard University, Christmas gift cards for families and gift packages for our members in college and military. Please invite friends, coworkers and neighbors to this event. What an easy way to get your Christmas baking done by buying an assortment of Christmas goodies for your own home.



BSLC Women's Christmas Party

6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13

All our BSLC women need to take time to enjoy food, fellowship and singing Christmas carols during this busy time of year. The party is in the community room at Marlene Bergseth's apartment building, 1670 E. Gateway Circle, Fargo. Just bring an appetizer to share and a wrapped fancy "white elephant" gift. Cash donations are welcome to buy Christmas gift cards for those in need during this holiday season.

Order Your Christmas Poinsettias

Sign-up sheets are in the narthex for ordering poinsettias in honor or memory of a loved one. Cost is \$12 each. Please write the check to the LWML and place in the envelope. The deadline to order is Dec. 16.

LWML Thanks You For.....

Eyeglass Donations-Have you ever tried reading the bible or going to work without your glasses? Thank you to those of you who donated the 24 pairs of eyeglasses. Redeemer Lutheran in Moorhead sends them to Most Ministries. They calibrate and label them and then send them with missionaries like Glenn and Carole Borchers from Moorhead who just returned from Nicaragua where they gave out more than 2,000 glasses to children and adults. So if you would like to donate your old glasses, put them in the LWML kiosk; who knows where in the world they will end up.

Fall Food Drive- Thank you for donating to the LWML fall food drive. If you forgot to bring in a donation, it's not too late. BSLC has a small cabinet for people who stop in looking for help. Donations of peanut butter, crackers, cereal and cans of fruit, tuna and vegetables are always welcome and needed.

"Your Strong Suit" Quilting

Women's Bible Study

Our women's Bible study - "Your Strong Suit"- will meet at 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 3 and 9 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 6. It will resume again in January.

Quilting will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Dec. 13. Please stop in and find out what quilting is like and how they enjoy fellowship with other quilters. If you have a sewing machine or extra material, bring it too.

Baptisms

Nov. 11 - Vincent Christopher Andring, son of Douglas and Amy Andring, born Oct. 22, 2012. His sponsors were Shannon and Tracy Mohn.



Weddings

Nov. 24 - Donald Eldon Dahl and Kylee Noelle Thompson.



BSLC Coffee Club



Coffee Fellowship

BSLC members meet at 9 a.m. every Friday at Village Inn on the corner of 32nd Avenue South and 25th Street, Fargo. This time of fellowship is to get to know other Beautiful Savior members and is for both men and women of any age.

Save Coupons and Stamps

Remember only coupons that are **cut out** will be accepted. Please cut them out and put in a clear zip-lock bag. Any not cut, will be thrown. We have been sending the coupons to overseas bases.

Also bring in used postage stamps; the money received for these goes to various missions. Place the postage stamps in the boxes by the LWML. Thank you.

Rent a Youth



Need some extra hands around the house or yard? Rent a youth! The youth at Beautiful Savior are available to help out with various tasks, including snow removal, cleaning and moving assistance, among other jobs. Suggested rate is \$10 an hour per youth. All proceeds will go toward activities such as mission trips and the 2013 LCMS National Youth Gathering. To rent a youth, please call Pastor Chris at 293-1047 or 893-6995.

Thank You to our Volunteers

Thank you to all the people in our church who donate their time for repairs, cleaning, outside work, work with children, ushering, setting up communion and taking care of many of the other tasks around the church. The church is very appreciative of you all! There's always a need for more volunteers!



Gold Club Lunch

Noon on Wednesday, Dec. 12

Gold Club will meet at the church at noon Wednesday, Dec. 12. This is for anyone who is 55 or older or retired. Take time to visit with other BSLC friends and enjoy a potluck meal at the same time.



Offering Envelopes

Offering Envelopes for 2013 will be available for you to pick up in the narthex by the middle of December. Thank you.



Pledges for BSLC Stewardship

It's not too late to turn in your pledge card to help BSLC plan its 2013 budget. Please pray about what God's work is for you in our congregation and show your support by sending in your pledge. Thank you to all who already turned in their cards. If you need a pledge card, please call the church office or pick one up in the narthex.

New Members Welcomed to BSLC

New members of our congregation were welcomed during our worship services Nov. 18.

Doug and Amy Andring, Vincent	Eric Dahlen
Matthew and Jenna Deardoff, Ian	Timothy Flaten
Alissa Heagle, Benjamin	Sharla Foulkes
Sally and Jamie Mann, Brody, Otto	Diane Heagle
Shannon and Tracy Mohn, Emily	Cam Peters
Emily Ryan (Will), Owen, Liam	Keith Zilmer
Brent and Laurie Schmidt	
Tim and Penny McLagan, Kimberly, Greta, Joseph	

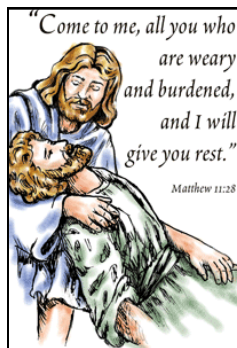


We worship in the sanctuary. What an apt name – because in worship, we gather around the joyous words of God and their fulfillment in Jesus Himself. Here we find true rest and the forgiveness of sins, the joys of heaven brought directly to us. Here, we receive warm comfort for a terrified heart.

Would that we worship every day to receive these gifts! But sadly, “regular” attendance these days has slipped to twice a month. What a sorry state of affairs. So what’s the problem? I believe even Christians can lapse into a state where we justify our sin too easily, ignoring its severity or dismissing it all together. In short, we have become more secure in our corrupted ways. Maybe this has even gotten to a point where we continue in sinful behavior, not caring what God has to say on any subject. This includes -- but is not limited to -- sex outside of marriage; gossip and backbiting; hatred and indifference toward those around us; hatred and despising of God’s word by skipping church or reading the bulletin during the sermon when we do come. On and on it goes.

If your own sins don’t trouble you, if you are comfortable to continue walking in ways contrary to God’s ways, the gospel isn’t for you. It does not apply.

In Matthew 11:28, Jesus invites all those who are weary and heavy laden to come to Him. But he invites *only* those burdened by their own sins. Just a few chapters earlier, Jesus takes a similar approach with the Pharisees after they rebuked him for socializing with and caring for sinners. What the Pharisees failed to recognize was their own sinfulness, to which Jesus responds: “Those who are well have no need of a physician but only those who are sick.”



Do you have a need for Jesus?

C.F.W. Walther adds much to the discussion, writing that those who *willfully* remain in sin, casting aside any care of it and continuing to walk brazenly in it, fall into the category of people who Isaiah says will “not behold the majesty of the Lord.”

Are you secure in sin or secure in Christ? Do you embrace and find meaning and joy in the ways of sin or in Jesus? Here, the real Christian will recognize shortcomings and sin, feel sorrow for them, turn from them and seek the forgiveness that Christ so freely gives to those who are “weary and heavy laden.”

On the other hand, Walther writes: “When I reprove a person and he becomes angry with me, he shows that he is not a true Christian. For a Christian receives reproof meekly, even if the reproof is uncalled for. He is not greatly surprised that people should charge him with wrong-doing, knowing that no person who is still in his natural state can be expected to do good.”

Christ died for sinners. But he did not die to make sinners secure in their sin. Those with real sins need a real savior. For those of us in this state, Christ’s words of forgiveness found in the divine service cannot come soon enough or often enough. It is only in Christ and His words and ways in which we then find true and everlasting security.

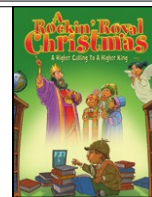
Pastor Chris

Calendars for sale to help Youth

Don’t forget to pick up your “God’s Creation” 2013 calendar this month. The youth will be selling them between church services. All youth are asked to take turns in manning the table. Suggested prices are \$10 with a minimum donation of \$5. Thank you for supporting this youth fundraiser.



A Rockin' Royal Christmas Practice



Practice will start in November for our third through sixth grade Christmas program. All practices will be on Saturday afternoons. Listed below are the times and dates of practice. Thank you for bringing your children to practice each week.

Sweet Seventeen

- ◆ Dec. 1 2-3 p.m. Sweet Seventeen
 3-4 p.m. All third-sixth graders
- ◆ Dec. 8 2-3 p.m. Sweet Seventeen
 3-4 p.m. All third-sixth graders
- ◆ Dec. 15 2-4:30 p.m. All third-sixth graders
Dress rehearsal
 4:30-5 p.m. Pizza party
- ◆ Dec. 16 10 a.m. All third-sixth graders for
 Practice and Warm up
 10:45 a.m. **Program**

1. Lucas Doeling	10. Chloe Thompson
2. Jaida Croaker	11. Sam Steinke
3. Paige McArthur	12. Carter Hoerer
4. Reegan Weitnauer	13. Nate Krause
5. Allison Gaber	14. Quinn Gehler
6. Blaine Triepke	15. Elizabeth Krause
7. Joren Palmer	16. Bennett Persoon
8. Dani Hjelden	17. Abby Tykwinski
9. Lexi Doeling	

Light a Candle Christmas Program



The Pre-K through second grade students will begin rehearsals for their Christmas program on Saturday, Dec. 1. The Pre-K and kindergarten students will practice from 10-10:30 a.m. and first and second graders will practice from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Thank you for working with your children to learn the songs and for bringing them to practice and Sunday school each week. If you would like to help with the program, please let Dawn Thompson or Tana Shereck know.

Grace Lutheran School Christmas Musical

This year the students of Grace Lutheran School will present "The Case of the Maltese Manger" at 7 p.m. Dec. 13 and 14. Join us for this "film noir" Christmas musical as private eye Bobby Angel uncovers the mystery of the town's missing manger and learns the true meaning of Christmas in the process. Written and directed by our very own Mr. Jay Schaefer, it is in the style of a 1940's radio drama with musical styles ranging from vaudeville to big band swing. Hope to see you there! For those who don't want to come out at night, please join us for the 1:30 p.m. dress rehearsal on Thursday, Dec.13!



God offered His best for us; let us offer our best to Him.

God's timing is perfect as He carries out His will. Galatians 4:4-5 reads, "But when the time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons." (NIV)

Christmas is a very joyous occasion as we celebrate our Lord's first coming into the world but we also know that the shadow of the cross already hovered over the manger where the baby Jesus was laid. He was born to die in our place so that the door to heaven will be open to us and all who believe in Him as our only true Lord and Savior.

As Christian stewards we live in the light of the Gospel and freely and joyfully manage all of life and life's resources for God's purposes. God offered up His best for us and in response we strive to offer our best to Him. During this joyful Christmas season we have many opportunities to show our love for God by showing love to all the neighbors He has placed around us, especially those who have special needs of body, soul and spirit. May God help us to use our gifts of time, talents, skills and financial resources to His glory and the welfare of those around us. May He especially help us to be like the shepherds and spread the good news of salvation in Christ alone!

Youth Praise Band

Hey sixth- to twelfth-graders! Do you play an instrument or love to sing? The Youth Praise Band would love to have you join us. Practices will be at 6:30 p.m. Sundays, Dec. 2, 9 and 16. If you have any questions, please call Ramsey at 866-5403.

New E-mail Address for BSLC

Please update your e-mail address for Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church. Beautiful Savior's new e-mail is:

office@bslcfargo.org.

December Youth Events



Upcoming Bible Study Opportunities

Wednesday, Dec. 5 – from 7:45 to 9 p.m. Destination Unknown for grades 7-12

Wednesday, Dec. 19 – from 7:45 to 9 p.m. Fifth annual Christmas lights scavenger hunt

Wednesday, Dec. 26 – No youth group.

Upcoming Servant/Fund-Raising Events

Wednesday, Dec. 12 – **Junior and Senior High Christmas Party.** All those in sixth through 12th grade are invited to a Christmas Party from 7:45-9 at the church. Please bring a treat to share and a wrapped white elephant gift (between \$8-\$10).



Upcoming Servant/Fund-Raising Events



Calendar sales. Once again, the youth will be offering beautiful "God's Creation" calendars for sale during services in December. Suggested donation for a calendar is \$10, with a minimum of \$5. All youth in junior and senior high are encouraged to help man the table to help fund youth mission trips, servant events and the National Youth Gathering.

Wednesday, Dec. 12 – **Advent soup and sandwich supper sponsored by youth.** All youth in junior and senior high are encouraged to bring soup, sandwiches, side or dessert for our Advent supper at 6 p.m. We will be taking a freewill offering that will go toward youth mission trips, servant events and the National Youth Gathering.



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: office@bslcfargo.org
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.

Worship Schedule on Sunday

8:15 and 9:30 a.m. Praise Worship
10:45 a.m. Traditional Worship

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

Non-Profit
Organization
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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 Dave Anderson 218-298-0135
E-G Tim Deitemeyer 793-2220
H-K
L-N Craig Hashbarger 799-7451
O-R Adam Tykwinski 793-8170
S Dave Eggers 218-287-3789
T-Z Steve Thielman 293-7933
Pastor Paul Bunkowske 241-4610

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: Brad Palmer 364-9775
Jane Thielman 293-7933
Financial Secretaries: Beth Gustafson 239-9090
Kristin Sevald 371-7723

THIS PUBLICATION

ENLIGHTEN is a monthly publication of Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church.