



GOOD NEWS

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November 2018

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**Our congregation
celebrates
communion at
each
service.**

**Sunday Worship
9:30 AM**



From the Pastors

This month, we celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday. It is a wonderful opportunity to pause and consider everything that we give thanks to God for. As your pastors, we give thanks for this congregation and the opportunity to serve you. We have now been here for a year and a half, and have enjoyed getting to know you better and engaging in ministry with you. We are especially grateful for Cheryl, Marsha, and Juanita, and the excellent work that they do, for our Council and committee members, and for everyone who steps up to help when asked.

We also give thanks for each other, for our cat Taffy, for our families, and for God's beautiful creation. We give thanks that Pastor Steve's mom, Helene, for whom we have been praying, had successful surgery to repair a 95% blockage of her carotid artery. We rejoice that Pastor Wendi's youngest sister, Margaret, is expecting a baby girl in January; Pastor Wendi will then have 20 nieces and nephews ranging from newborn to college students.

For all of these things, and too many others to mention, we thank God. Gratitude is a spiritual practice that has been shown to help alleviate depression, among other benefits. Focusing on the good things can be hard when life is full of challenges and you find yourself feeling helpless and hopeless, but it is worth a try. Think about the people, places, animals, and things in your life that you appreciate. What makes them special to you?

Take some time on Thanksgiving Day, or any other day this month, to list everything you have to be grateful for. Tell the people in your life how much they mean to you. Thank God for life itself, and for all of the positive things in your life. You'll probably be surprised at how many items you can list when you really stop to think about it. As you prepare to enjoy your Thanksgiving dinner (whether it's an elaborate feast or a simple meal), thank God for the food and take the time to truly savor it.

Thanksgiving is only one day a year, but with the right attitude every day we can find new reasons to thank God. There is always someone or something for which to be grateful, though some days we will have to search harder than others to find it. Challenge yourself to do just that, and share with us what you are grateful for this holiday season.

Pastors Wendi & Steve

COUNCIL NEWS

The Congregational Council met on October 15, 2018.

Those in attendance: Laurie Dale, Joe Froeschle, Greg Hinders, Erich Drochner, Pastor Steve, Pastor Wendi, Andrea Schmidt, Greg Hinders

Those not able to attend: David Roulston, Jeff Worley, Tanya Berry, Biff Flatt, Keith Rosenthal, Richard Owen, Kendra Berry,
Guests: Cheryl Hall

The quorum for an official council meeting was not met. Next Council Meeting is scheduled for November 19, 2018 at 6:30 pm.

Pastors Report—On September 29th we attended the Panhandle Assembly (along with Biff and Melinda, and Greg H.) where the topic was “The Generosity Project” (a multi-generational way to have conversations around money and giving). We have many different generations already represented in BSLC (even without many children) and we think this program would be great to implement at BSLC.

Pastor Wendi attended the “Cross+ Gen Conference” in Estes Park, CO from October 1 – 4. The synod and national church paid her expenses so that she can be a trainer in our synod for The Generosity Project. The conference as a whole focused on various ways of doing intergenerational ministry during Sunday School, VBS, and worship. Depending on what our Education Committee and the people from Trinity United Methodist decide, we may have an intergenerational VBS this year, with activities for both children and adults.

We are planning for the upcoming Advent and Christmas Seasons. We have chosen a theme for Advent of “Prepare the Royal Highway.” We will be providing a “Blue Christmas Service” on Sunday Night December 23rd for those who are grieving or for whom the season is not “merry.”

Property—

A number of doors have been re-keyed at the church and we can now lock all doors leading into the courtyard. Doors inside the gym now can be locked with a single key. The lock to the exterior door in the gym kitchen needs to be replaced. The key to this door will be placed in the lockbox. This key will not work on any other exterior doors to the church.

Ministry goals and objectives for inclusion in the strategic plan were discussed- replacing the rusted-out water heater feeding the gymnasium locker rooms with a tankless water heater, timeline for replacing the old existing furnaces and condensing units, new lighting in the gym, LED retrofit of lights throughout the office and education hallways, and removal of the old elm trees around the church campus.

Social Concerns—

God fed 314 people through the food pantry, the sewing group is working most Mondays. Continued delivery of Meals on Wheels. We built one ramp in September.

We set the social concerns budget and decided to do a Christmas tree with Good Gifts Ornaments for the congregation to give to.

FINANCIAL NEWS SEPTEMBER 2018

Current liquid assets are in good shape. At current spending, we have 2+ months cushion in our General Fund.

Account	Balance	Chg from Jan 1
FBSW Checking	\$ 36,580.52	\$ (6,769.02)
FBSW MM	\$ 74,727.22	\$ 195.32
Total	\$ 111,307.74	\$ (6,573.70)
Available for:		
General Fund	\$ 51,477.93	\$ 4,525.58
Dedicated	\$ 59,829.81	\$ (11,099.28)
Total	\$ 111,307.74	\$ (6,573.70)

Quarterly dividends of the Endowment Funds show gains/losses from investments. Results are due to general stock market performance.

	Balance	Chg from Jan 1
Endowment	\$ 173,143.45	\$ (2,844.28)

September donations to our General Fund were as anticipated. The congregation is very generous, exceeding YTD expectations.

Mo. Receipts	Anticipated	Actual	Variance
Offerings	\$ 16,110.82	\$ 15,951.96	\$ (158.86)
Other	\$ 416.67	\$ 30.00	\$ (386.67)
Total	\$ 16,527.49	\$ 15,981.96	\$ (545.53)
Dedicated		\$ 1,644.21	
YTD Receipts	Anticipated	Actual	Variance
Offerings	\$ 178,880.70	\$ 182,928.66	\$ 4,047.96
Other	\$ 3,750.03	\$ 3,265.01	\$ (485.02)
Total	\$ 182,630.73	\$ 186,193.67	\$ 3,562.94
Dedicated		\$ 31,239.79	

Most major category expenditures are below plan, as is the total. Staff expenses are approximately \$3,000 underspent because of prepayment of some expenses. Property is \$1,700 underspent because of less than anticipated repairs.

Monthly Exp	Budgeted	Actual	Variance
General Fund	\$ 20,431.16	\$ 15,301.38	\$ (5,129.78)
Dedicated		\$ 675.20	
YTD Exp	Budgeted	Actual	Variance
General Fund	\$ 195,236.44	\$ 179,698.05	\$ (15,538.39)
Dedicated		\$ 45,183.35	

All categories are underspent for the year.

November



NOTES

Together We Pray

If you would like one of the pastors to visit or call you or to put your prayer request into the church's prayers in the weekly bulletin or on the prayer chain, call the church office at 359-9483.

To join the prayer chain by email, contact the church office.

Happy Birthday!

11/08 JoAnn Kahn
11/12 Marilyn Schleh
11/17 Carol Froeschle
Carolyn Kelly
11/23 D'Ann Berry
11/24 Jerry Moller
11/27 Steve Gates
Gene Reneau
11/29 Wendi Gordon



Count our blessings!

PRAYER & THANKS GIVING

We keep in our prayers.....see Sunday Bulletin

KEENAGERS

Wednesday,
November 7
At 12:00 pm

This is a fun group of 55 and older who meet the first Wednesday each month for pot-luck lunch and fellowship. Anyone 55 or older that wishes to join us, please do so.

This month is potluck. We will need volunteers for setup and to cleanup afterwards.

Evelyn Wells is recovering from back surgery in October.

It was great to see **Lucille Longhofer** return to church in October following her recovery from heart surgery.

FYI: **Calinda** the young mother, we have been praying for, who had a heart attack during pregnancy this past year is doing much better and has returned to work.

Congratulations to **Kendra Berry & Michael Massey** on their wedding November 3.

Check your Sunday bulletin for a list of others we are actively praying for.



Sunday, November 11 following the worship service.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

ELCA Good Gifts

ELCA Good Gifts provides more than 50 different gift-giving options that grow the church, fight hunger and transform lives. These gifts, starting at just \$10, provide direct support for the churchwide ministries of the ELCA.



The resources make it easy (and fun!) for your family, your congregation and your community to say “goodbye” to traditional gift-giving and “hello” to meaningful gifts that really make a difference in the world.

Good Gift-giving Idea!

Coming during Advent look for flyers in your Sunday bulletins and you can also pick up an ornament from the small Christmas tree that you can place on your own tree or give to others when you give a gift in their name.

Holy Spirit, give us a vision of the fruit of Christ's work that you are growing in us, so that we may be refreshed in sharing God's goodness.

Newsletter Article on Stewardship, November 2018

Holy Currencies is the name of our stewardship program that was introduced in last month's newsletter. In Holy Currencies there are six blessings of currencies – Time and Place, Gracious Leadership, Relationship, Truth, Wellness, and Money. These currencies have value in their being exchanged for one of the other currencies. As these currencies feed into each other you form a Cycle of Blessings. As this cycle of blessings flows and grows, a Sustainable Missional Ministry is formed or reformed. That is what we pray for at Beautiful Savior!

Throughout the year we will cycle through each of the currencies starting now with the Currency of Money. We are going to approve our operating budget later this month so money and our giving will be even more on our minds. The good news is that the proposed budget for next year is balanced (with a little left over) since the council members were good stewards in reducing expenses and in estimating income in line with trends. But that means that we all need to consider our giving well. And when we are generous we will have more than enough for what we are planning and can do even more ministries in the upcoming years. It is an exciting time for our church!

In Holy Currencies we expand our understanding of money and categories to which we can pledge our giving since we will be exchanging our offerings for the other currencies and the ministries that come out of them. Of course, we will give to the church to support its ministries, but we can imagine and celebrate all of the other ways we give:

We may know other people or organizations that could support an existing ministry.

We support our local community by spending on the things we need.

We support other nonprofit organizations.

We should pledge all of these as we lift our giving up to God with grateful hearts for the blessings we have received and the blessing we become for others. Below is a pledge card that we encourage you to fill out and offer up to God for all of these areas of giving.

Pledge Card for the Currency of Money

I commit \$_____ for my church's ministries.

I commit to raise \$_____ from _____ (sources outside church membership) for _____ (name of existing or new ministry).

I commit \$_____ to support the local community economy by spending it at _____

I commit \$_____ to give to other nonprofit organizations that foster wellness, truth, and trusting relationships in our local community, such as _____.

My name: _____ My Accountable person: _____

Signature

Signature

Date: _____

Sunday Worship 9:30 am
Fellowship—10:30 am

Adult SS—8:30 & 10:45

Choir: 10:45 am

November 2018

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

² Let us come before him with thanksgiving
and extol him with music and song.

³ For the LORD is the great God,
the great King above all gods.

Psalm 95:2-3 (NIV)

1

2

3

7 pm Spiritual-
ity Gathering

4

Worship/SS
Fellowship

5:30
Confirmation

5

6

7

10-12 pm Food
Pantry
12 pm
KEENAGERS

8

9

10

11

Worship/SS
Fellowship
11 am Congre-
gational Meet-
ing
5:30
Confirmation

12

9:30 Martha's
Circle
7 pm
Property

13

14

10-12 pm Food
Pantry

15

16

17

8:30 Men's
Breakfast

7 pm Spiritual-
ity Gathering

18

Worship/SS
Fellowship
5:30
Confirmation
7 pm Young
Adults

19

9:30 Book Club
6:30 Council

20

21

10-12 pm Food
Pantry

22

Happy
Thanksgiving



23

Office Closed

24

25

Worship/SS
Fellowship

5:30
Confirmation

26

27

28

10-12 pm Food
Pantry

29

30



BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

3500 Bowie

Amarillo, Texas 79109

November 2018

Return Service Requested

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Staff: Steve Brauner, Wendi Gordon, Pastors; Cheryl Hall, Office Manager; Marsha Moller, Music Director;

Church Council: Joe Froeshle, President; Biff Flatt, VP; Tanya Berry, Education; Kendra Berry, Evangelism; Richard Owen, Fellowship; Erich Drochner, Finance; David Roulston, Stewardship; Greg Hinders Social Concerns; Keith Rosenthal, Property; Andrea Schmidt, Youth; Laurie Dale, Worship; Jeff Worley, Secretary

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