



# GOOD NEWS

Volume 57, Issue 12  
December 2017

## BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Our congregation  
celebrates  
communion at each  
service.

### Worship Schedule

**8:30 AM WORSHIP**

**11:00 AM WORSHIP**

### Sunday School

**9:45 Am**

### FROM THE PASTORS

Pastor Steve: I remember one Christmas opening a large flat box addressed to me. I was so excited to find out what the gift was. I tore into it with much energy. It was a model train set – I was so joy-filled!

Pastor Wendi: For me, it was a “Baby Alive” doll – the only doll I ever played with. I could actually feed her and change her diaper. I was so excited!

This advent season for our mid-week series we are using the theme *The Gifts of Advent*. The three gifts this year are patience, speech and silence, and hope. Patience: waiting is hard; waiting in our lives, waiting for God’s showing up in our struggles, waiting for the Lord’s return. Speech and Silence: Zechariah was forced to wait in silence until the birth of John when he could proclaim God’s working; we, too, have times of silence and listening for God’s work in and through us, and times to shout from the rooftops what God is doing in our lives and in the world. Hope: Zechariah proclaimed the hope of God’s mercy showing up in the world; we, too, hope in the mercy and love of God in our lives.

As we remember fondly the gifts we have received in Christmases past, we look forward to the gift of this Christmas. Emmanuel, God with us! Jesus, God saves! The infant whose birth we proclaim this season is God coming to us, our family and friends, and the whole world. God shows up in our midst as Jesus, who is Emmanuel. God comes to love and redeem us all!

May you have a very blessed Christmas! We hope to see you in our celebrations at Beautiful Savior. We hope that God’s grace, mercy, and love surround you always. Merry Christmas to Y’all!

## COUNCIL REPORT

### **The Congregational Council met on Nov. 20, 2017.**

Present: Pastor Steve Brauner, Pastor Wendi Gordon, David Roulston, Cheryl Hall, Richard Owen, Keith Rosenthal, Tanya Berry, Laurie Dale, Greg Hinders, Erich Drochner, Andrea Schmidt, Linda Allen and guest, Carol Froeschle

Unable to Attend: Kevin Krallman, Susan O'Shaughnessy, Joe Froeschle

### **New Business—**

Carol Froeschle informed the council that the Family Promise in Amarillo is forming a leadership team out of the current seven congregations currently participating in its development of an Amarillo Chapter. The team is in the process of establishing a non-profit 501C3 and accompanying state and federal filing. Carol requests that Beautiful Savior add a dedicated account for the group to use until Family Promise of Amarillo opens its own accounts. A motion was made, seconded and approved for BSLC to create a dedicated account funded by Family Promise for a period of one year then review on whether to keep the account for donations dedicated to the Family Promise of Amarillo.

Carol also noted that the next Family Promise meeting will be on Jan. 18. at the First Church of Nazarene at 7:00 pm.

- The council approved the columbarium committee's request to raise the cost of a niche from \$300 to \$600 per niche.

- January's Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting will be on January 28, 2018 at 12:15 pm.

**Pastors Report—**The Table, our Campus Ministry Program for WTAMU students that is a joint venture with St. George's Episcopal Church in Canyon, has not succeeded in attracting students. It is likely that we will cease our involvement with this ministry and investigate possibilities at Amarillo College. Our prayer ministry at Palace Coffee House has also come to an end.

While we were at Briarwood for the Bishop's Convocation in October, we were approached by Rev. Jesus Escamilla, the Dean of the Latino Conference of the synod, to discuss the possibility of starting a Latino ministry at Beautiful Savior. He will meet with the church council in Feb.

**Fellowship—** Richard Owen informed the council that there would be a hay ride at the Bergs on December 20 following the Holden Evening Prayer. Also following the December 6 and 13 Holden Evening Prayer services the congregation is invited to gather at Roasters for coffee.

**Youth—** Andrea Schmidt informed the council that the Marty Party was a huge success and that the youth/family members cooked and took Thanksgiving dinners to 10 households of shut-ins in our congregation

**Property—** The Property Committee has selected the bid from Janell's Concrete for repairing the church courtyard. The repair work is scheduled to begin December 1 and should take approximately a week to complete. Most of the stone top squares currently in the courtyard now will be saved and used on church property as needed.

Concrete will be poured for the shed's foundation the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> week in December. Construction of the shed will follow.

**Worship—** We have vacancies for worship leaders. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the sacristy.

## Peace Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,  
 Where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
 where there is injury, pardon;  
 where there is doubt, faith;  
 where there is despair, hope;  
 where there is darkness, light;  
 where there is sadness, joy;

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;  
 to be understood as to understand;  
 to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;  
 it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

## FINANCIAL NEWS

### October 2017

Cash equivalent asset balance at the end of October was \$128,120 (\$5,855 decrease from the beginning of the year). \$84,503 is allocated to our Dedicated Accounts, the value of which has increased \$6,803 for the year. \$43,617 is available for the General Fund, the value of which has decreased by \$12,660 for the year. The value of investments in our Endowment Fund is \$171,645, an increase of \$12,330 for the year.

October donations to our General Fund were \$19,205 compared to our anticipated amount of \$21,217 (\$2,012 less than anticipated). Other receipts were \$30 compared to an anticipated amount of \$417. Total Year-to-Date income is \$193,071, \$21,793 less than our anticipated amount of \$214,864. Contributions to Dedicated Accounts were \$3,652 and \$3,633 investment income from our Endowment Fund. Total receipts for October were \$22,888.

Expenses for October were \$21,153 compared to a budgeted amount of \$22,481. Major area of underspend was Staff Expenses (\$2,118). Areas of overspend were Fellowship (\$560) and Property (\$412). Year-to-date Expenditures from the General Fund were \$206,373 compared to a budget of \$227,960, resulting in a \$21,587 underspend.



# December Notes



## Pray for Each other



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.

## KEENAGERS

**Wednesday**  
**December 6 at noon**

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.

Catered lunch this month.

## December Birthdays

12/02 Linda Runkle

12/04 Linda Allen

Bill Tietgens

12/05 Jessica berg

12/08 Jeff Worley

12/09 Hal Wisker

12/10 Nadine Herber

12/11 Judith Hanson

12/12 Nichole Krallman

12/13 Bea Kirkeeng

12/15 Dustin Rosenthal

12/28 Melinda Flatt

12/31 Mike Huckabee



Count our blessings!

**PRAYER & THANKS GIVING**

*We keep in our prayers.....*

**JoAnn Kahn** was hospitalized, moved to rehab.

**Biff Flatt** is back on track after a procedure in Houston.

**Dale & Diane Thompson**

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
his love endures forever. Psalm 107: 1



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

## ELCA Good Gifts

Each year, Americans spend over \$300 billion on Christmas shopping. Imagine what would happen if we could redirect that spending toward the things that really matter, like putting an end to hunger. With ELCA Good Gifts, you can do just that. Choose from more than 50 charitable gifts to give in honor of loved ones – from goats to water wells, school uniforms to food for refugees. Start a new tradition by giving these gifts in honor of friends or loved ones this Christmas. Shop now by visiting [ELCA.org/goodgifts](http://ELCA.org/goodgifts) or pick up an order form from catalogs in the church narthex.

*Here is a playful song to the tune of “God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen” for your enjoyment.*

### *Slow Down Ye Frantic Shoppers*

Slow down ye frantic shoppers, for there's something we must say.  
If you would spare a moment, all the stores would go away.  
Big business has been telling us what Christmas means today.

*Refrain: Now it's time we decided for ourselves, for ourselves. Yes, it's time we decided for ourselves.*

To some folks Christmas means a time for gathering with friends.  
And enemies might take it as a time to make amends.  
But TV says it's time for pricey gifts and selfish ends.

*Refrain: Now it's time we decided for ourselves, for ourselves. Yes, it's time we decided for ourselves.*

Some people feel that Christmas is when Jesus makes a call.  
For others it's a time to stress good will and peace to all.  
But advertisers tell us it means Santa's at the mall.

*Refrain: Now it's time we decided for ourselves, for ourselves. Yes, it's time we decided for ourselves.*



We are still collecting box tops. So far we have collected over 200. Thanks!

## CHRISTMAS ANGEL TREE PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN IN UPBRING-FOSTER IN TEXAS HOMES

Reminder to those that picked up an Angel.

- Bring your gift to church by **Sunday, December 3.**
- Place the bagged gift with attached label in the collection box in the narthex.
- Add the child to your prayer list and pray for him/her in the months to come



Every other **Tuesday** at **5:45 p.m.**, as many as 150 volunteers gather to pack more than 4,300 bags. Our warehouse is located in Amarillo at 2406 SW 3rd Ave.

### 2017

December 12th

### 2018

January 9th, 23rd  
February 6th, 20th  
March 6th, 20th  
April 3rd, 17th  
May 1st, 15th



You are invited to meet the new Thrivent representative, Sharon Dogget, on December 7 between 5:00—7:00 pm in the church fellowship hall.



## MARTHA CIRCLE/BOOK CLUB

Martha Circle and the Book Club will have a combined meeting in December. We will meet on Monday, December 18 at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Shirley Petersen, 1407 26<sup>th</sup> Street, in Canyon, TX.

Please bring a Christmas treat to share with the group.

## Young Adult Meet Up

We are inviting all Young Adults (18-34 years old) to get together and to begin talking about what meaningful activities you want to do as young Christians. We will meet on **December 10th at 8:00 PM** at Spencer and Tanya Berry's place (2216 Gresham) for our first gathering. If you are a young adult you are invited! Please invite any other young adults you know to come, too. See you then!



## CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Friday, 1 December, 10:00 a.m. **CHURCH WOMEN UNITED** will meet at First Christian Church, 3001 Wolflin for its annual meeting, installation of officers and presentation of gifts to agencies from this year's fund raisers. A covered dish luncheon will follow



## The First Sunday in Advent is December 3

In December we meet Wednesday nights at 6:00 pm for supper. Bring your favorite soup or sandwiches on Dec. 6th & 13th to share. On Dec. 20th we will have a pile-on supper. The Holden Evening Prayer follows at 7:00 pm.

Wednesday, December 6  
Wednesday, December 13  
Wednesday, December 20

**FYI: We will decorate the church and put up the Chrismon Tree on Saturday, December 2 at 10:00 am . We will have lunch afterwards. Make plans to join in the fun.**



During Advent we come together each Wednesday night for fellowship and worship.

**Wednesdays, December 6, 13, (20 pile-on)**

6:00 pm Bring your favorite soup or sandwiches to share on December 6th & 13th. On December 20th we will have a pile on (look for a sign-up sheet for what to bring in the narthex) We meet in the church fellowship hall.

**7:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer –The Gifts of Advent**

December 6 and 13 all are invited to meet at Roasters for coffee following the service.

After the service on December 20, all are welcome to go for an ole fashioned hay ride at the Bergs (5004 Arden Rd). Bring a dessert to share.

**Choir Cantata**  
Sunday, December 17

**Advent 4 Morning Service**  
Sunday, December 24 at 9:30 am

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Services**  
Sunday, December 24 at 7:00 pm and at 10:00 pm

**Christmas Morning - No Service**





# December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 10 am Decorate the church/lunch 4:30 pm Labyrinth Walk
3 Worship 8:30/11:00 6:00 pm Choir 6:30 Confirma-	4 6:30 Sewing	5	6 10-12 pm Food Pantry 12 pm KEENAGERS 6pm Soup/Sand 7pm Holden	7	8	9
10 Worship 8:30/11:00 6:00 pm Choir 6:30 Confirma-	11 6:30 Sewing	12	13 10-12 pm Food Pantry 12 pm 6pm Soup/Sand 7pm Holden Evening Prayer	14	15	16 4:30 pm Labyrinth Walk
17 Worship 8:30/11:00 6:00 pm Choir 6:30 Confirma-	18 6:30 Sewing 7 pm Council	19	20 10-12 pm Food Pantry 12 pm 6pm Soup/Sand 7pm Holden Evening Prayer	21	22	23
24 9:30 Worship  7/10 pm Candle Light Service	25 Christmas	26 Office Closed	27 10-12 pm Food Pantry	28	29	30
31 Worship 8:30/11:00 6:00 pm Choir 6:30 Confirma-						



**BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**3500 Bowie**  
**Amarillo, Texas 79109**  
**December 2017**

**Return Service Requested**

**Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church**  
**3500 S Bowie**

**Amarillo, Texas 79109**

**Office - (806) 359-9483    FAX - (806) 359-9484    E-mail - [beautifulsavioramarillo@gmail.com](mailto:beautifulsavioramarillo@gmail.com)**

**Web - [www.beautifulsavioramarillo.org](http://www.beautifulsavioramarillo.org)**

**Office Hours - Monday thru Thursday, 9:00AM-12:00PM, 1:00-3:00PM (closed during the noon hour)    Friday, 9:00AM- 12:00 PM**

**Sunday Summer Schedule - 9:30 am**

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

**Church Council: Kevin Krallman, President; Joe Froeshle, VP; Tanya Berry, Education; Linda Allen, Evangelism; Richard Owen, Fellowship; Erich Drochner, Finance; David Roulston, Stewardship; Greg Hinders Social Concerns; Keith Rosenthal, Property; Andrea Schmidt, Youth; Laurie Dale, Worship; Susan O'Shaughnessy, Secretary**

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