

THE MESSENGER

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

www.beautifulsaviorlutheran.com

**Check out our website.
It's full of information
and it's updated regularly!** *(Thanks Shannon!)*

WORSHIP TIMES:

8:30 and 11 AM

**Sunday School & Adult Forum
at 9:45 AM**

The Messenger

November 2010

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ...

OCTOBER 31st at 12:15—

2011 will be another important year of ministry as we seek new ways to bring God's love to our church community and neighbors. Come and help us plan for 2011 at our Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, October 31, at 12:30pm, right after the second service. A light lunch will be served in the Fellowship Hall following worship and child care will be provided.

At this meeting we will hear how God has blessed our ministry in the year 2010 and make plans for 2011. We will elect new Council members and other leaders, as well as adopt our budget for the coming year.

Our goal this year is to grow as a Community of Caring. We want to multiply the ways in which we care for our neighbor sitting next to us in church, our neighbors living around us in Clark County and our neighbors throughout the world.

**Thanksgiving Eve Worship—
November 24 at 7 PM**

We will gather at church to give special thanks to God for all the blessings of this past year. You are invited to bring an item from home (a picture, keepsake, toy, etc..) which symbolizes something which you are thankful for.

During the sermon time (if you wish), Pastor Jaech will invite you to share a short story about what you brought and why the item makes you thankful.

***“Celebrating,
Deepening,
and Sharing in
God's Love.”***





From Pastor Jaech

Dear Friends in Christ,

My grandfather had a wheat farm and then an apple orchard during two stretches of his life. I suspect he knew better than I the sense of relief and exhaustion that comes at harvest time, when the crops are finally in the barn and ready for sale. As a city-dweller, other than photographs in a magazine or an occasional drive through the countryside, I feel rather removed from an actual harvest and harvest time. For me, food just keeps appearing in the grocery store aisles. Apples, lettuce, even strawberries appear year round, whether from Washington farms or from Chile. I experience Autumn as the changing of the leaves, but not particularly as a time of harvest.

I think about that because, originally, Thanksgiving Day had deep connections to harvest time, as a day to give thanks for all that had been gathered. Going back even farther, practically all of the religious celebrations of ancient Israel and many of the early Christian celebrations were clustered around the days of planting and harvesting, because that was the way people measured their lives. Harvest time was also the most natural way to measure what God had done for them in their lives.

These days, as city dwellers, we live in a 24/7 world of electric grids and internet connections. Our lives flow on and on; our tasks stay constant; months merge into months. Summer is often just as busy as winter. Autumn is not a completion but a beginning of school and indoor home projects and, for some, trips to a warmer climate. All of that makes me wonder: If Thanksgiving Day is not so much a Harvest Festival in which we stop and give thanks for what was just completed, in what new way can it help us give thanks?

Perhaps on Thanksgiving Day we stop in the midst of the flow of our life to give thanks for the flow itself. We stop to give thanks to God for all of the gifts and ingredients of life that flow from the hand of a loving and caring God. Life sweeps us along like a river. On Thanksgiving Day, we gather together with family and friends to give thanks for the river and everything in it, which, as the Book of Revelation says, flows from the throne of God.

A Thanksgiving Day poem by Ted Loder comes to mind:

So this day,

all is praise and thanks

for all my days.

I breath and it is your breath that fills me.

I look and it is your light by which I see.

I move and it is your energy moving in me.

I listen and even the stones speak of you.

I touch and you are between finger and skin.

I think and the thoughts are but sparks

from the fire of your truth.

I weep and your Spirit broods over me.

I long and it is the tug of your kingdom

I praise you, Glorious One,

for what has been, and is, and ever will be:

for galaxy upon galaxy, mass and energy,

earth and air, sun and night....

On Thanksgiving Day at our house, we will still have the napkins with corn stalks and squash; the turkey will still be roasted golden brown and served with cranberries. I enjoy all of that harvest, too. At the same time, we will also check our emails that day and be reminded that the Web is pulsing all around us. We are people of the past and people of the future and we celebrate how God is the Life that generously flows to us and to all, past, present and future. Thanks be to God!

In Christ,

Pastor Rick Jaech



CALLED TO CARE ...

Four Weeks of Study,

Reflection and Commitment

“Jesus called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom and to heal.” Luke 9:1-2

In the same way that Jesus called the first disciples to follow his Way of Life, Jesus also calls us. We are called, both individually and as a congregation, to live out the love and grace of God to everyone around us and bring God’s blessing and healing to all people. One way of expressing this is to say that we are Called to Care.

Beginning on October 31 and continuing through the first three Sundays of November, we will explore what it means for us at Beautiful Savior to be Called to Care. During worship and also at our Sunday morning Adult Forum, we will investigate the different ways in which we can concretely care for others.

Quoting from the Book of Deuteronomy, Jesus taught his disciple, “Love your neighbor.” One of his students asked, “Who is my neighbor?” The short answer is, “Everybody is our neighbor,” but a more specific way of thinking about it is that we have three groups of “neighbors”. We have the neighbors who sit with us at church each Sunday. As St. Paul puts it, together with our fellow church members, we form a “household of faith” and we are each others closest neighbors. Secondly, we are neighbors with everyone living around us in Clark County. Thirdly, the whole world is our neighborhood and people in every country are our neighbors.

In the coming weeks we will explore how we are Called to Care for each of these sets of neighbors. We will also look at the different kinds of

ministry that Beautiful Savior is already providing to its various neighbors, both inside and outside the congregation. For example, our Care Team cares for our neighbors inside our congregation; our Sunday Brown Bag ministry and the WHO homeless shelter cares for our neighbors in Clark County; and the Lutheran World Relief quilting crew cares for our neighbors around the world. There are many more ministries in each category and new ones that can be started. Participants will be invited to pick a ministry in one of these areas and volunteer for service. In this way, we will live out more fully Jesus’ revelation that we are Called to Care. We look forward to your participation in these four weeks of study, reflection and commitment.

Sunday School and Adult Forum

Adult Forum meets every Sunday at 9:45am in the Church Fellowship next door to the Coffee Hour area. The purpose of Adult Forum is to help adult members grow in faith and spiritual grounding. Discussions are held on a variety of topics.

- Oct. 31 Becoming a Community of Caring: How do we best care for our neighbor and who is our neighbor?
- Nov 7 Called to Care within our Household of Faith at Beautiful Savior
- Nov. 14 Called to Care in Clark County
- Nov. 21 Called to Care in the World
- Nov. 28 Advent Festival: Come and prepare for Christ’s birth with music, conversation and Advent crafts. An intergenerational event.



From Rachel Brocker—

As many of you have heard, my time as the Director of Faith Formation is coming to an end in January. I will leave Beautiful Savior having worked here longer than at any other job in my adult life – two and a half years is a record for me! It has been a wonderful stretch of time for me in many ways. I have been able to learn a lot, build wonderful relationships, serve a dynamic group of youth – with whom I've had a lot of fun. I will take the good memories of this time with me as I transition to the next stage of my life.

My ultimate destination is graduate school in the fall of 2011. I am applying to joint programs in divinity and social work at schools across the country. At this point, with applications still being sent in, I'm unsure whether I will end up in Boston, Berkeley, Minneapolis, or Chicago. In the time between my departure from Beautiful Savior and attending school, I plan to spend some time in Central America, to attend language school and work at an orphanage. I also plan to work at a camp and visit friends scattered all across the United States.

There are some big transitions in store for me, as there are for the Faith Formation program at Beautiful Savior. During my last few months here, I hope to work closely with a variety of people in the congregation to make the transition as smooth as possible and to ensure that no aspect of our current programming gets forgotten. Please contact me if you feel called to be a part of this process. I'd like to thank you all for the opportunity I've had to serve you as your Director of Faith Formation. It has been a blessing in so many ways.

Middle School Lock-in, November 5th!

What: 13 hour lock-in

Who: Middle School Youth

Where: Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

When: November 5th, 9 p.m. – 10 a.m.

How: You drop your child off at church and we'll take care of the rest. We'll be playing games, watching movies, and generally having a good time!!!

What to bring: Sleeping bag and pillow, favorite movie or game, snack to share.

Contact: Rachel Brocker, the director of faith formation, for more information.

Church – 360-254-9243

RSVP by November 3rd!!!!

High School Lock-in, November 19th!

Where: Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

When: November 19th, 7 p.m. – 10 a.m.

How: You drop your child off at church and we'll take care of the rest. We'll playing games, watching movies, and generally having a good time!!!

What to bring: Sleeping bag and pillow, favorite movie or game, snack to share.

Contact: Rachel Brocker, the director of faith formation, for more information.

Church – 360-254-9243

RSVP by November 17th!!!!

Christmas Program Practice

Sunday School kids, kindergarten through high school will be practicing for this year's Christmas program during education hour November 14th, 21st, and December 5th. The program will be performed December 12th during the education hour. See you there!



EDUCATION AT BSLC

Tuesday Study Group—Mercy & Manna

Shirley Vegdahl will continue to facilitate a discussion on the book, Manna and Mercy by Dan Erlander. We have copies of the book available in the church office. The group will meet on Tuesday mornings at 10 AM.

Noon Bible Study with Pastor Jaech

Join us on Wednesday's at 12 Noon to study the Book of James. Martin Luther felt that James didn't have enough gospel in it to be worthy of being in the Bible. However, the early Christian church saw its numerous, important gifts and voted James into the New Testament. What did James have to say to Christians in the second century when it was written? What does it have to say to us today? You are invited to join us on Wednesday's to study and explore this important book.

Wednesday Night Study

with Pastor Hoffman

Wednesday nights at 6:30 PM—A Study on the Book of James.

“Lives in Transition” – If you are experiencing a major transition in your life and would like to share wv support others in this journey of “life”, we invite you join us as we step out on a new opportunity to connect with others “Lives in Transition”. We will meet on Nov. 14 and Dec. 5 at 3 PM at BSLC. We welcome your thoughts, questions, and prayers. Susan Helms Peyer – 574-5171; Ginger Harshman – 828-5896; Margaret Thompson 258-1621

WEDNESDAY AT CHURCH

Wednesday Night @ Church is in full swing!! Not only do you not have to fix the meal, you get to eat out with some of the best company in town. Last year there was an average attendance at dinner of 65-70 people from Beautiful Savior. Come, bring the kids and enjoy the evening. Dinner at 5:30 PM!

How could anyone pass this up? Even the price is right. There is a suggested donation of \$5 to help cover costs, but **everyone eats**, regardless of whether they donate.

Of course there is more, much more, than just the dinner hour. **Cherub and children's choirs** rehearse before dinner (4:30 PM). **Adult choir** rehearse after dinner. **Confirmation class** (see related article) and **high school youth group** meet after dinner, as well as the very thought provoking **Bible studies** led by Gerald Hoffman. Nursery and supervised activities for children are provided.

This is an opportunity for whole families, single people, older people and young ones to come together and enjoy getting better acquainted. At the same time we are being enriched by our common desire to celebrate and enrich our faith. No doubt about it, Beautiful Savior is **the** place to be on Wednesday evenings. See you there!

11/3 Mexican 11/10 Sandwiches

11/17 Chinese

HALLOWEEN PARTY—

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 27, 6:30 PM.

For young people 5th grade and younger. Come in costume and enjoy treats, games, and thrills and chills!



Afghanistan: Two Documentaries

November 4, 2010 @ 7:00PM – *Stealing the Light*

Stealing the Light is a documentary by Rock Creek Productions about one man's journey to educate children in Afghanistan. It was last shown to a sold out audience at The Baghdad Theater in Portland in September. Green Village Schools is a 501(c)(3) charity organization based in Portland that builds schools and supports children's education in Afghanistan. The founder and president, **Dr. Mohammad Khan Kharoti**, enrolled in primary school at the age of 12 and became the first in his village to read and write. He is now a doctor of nuclear medicine at Kaiser Permanente and works at both Vancouver hospitals as well. He is extremely passionate about the education of both boys and girls in Afghanistan. For more information about Green Village Schools please visit the website at www.GreenVillageSchools.org. The documentary will be shown at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, 12513 SE Mill Plain Blvd, Vancouver, WA at 7:00PM and will be followed by discussion. Donations to Green Village Schools will be accepted.



November 20, 2010 @ 12:30PM – *Rethink Afghanistan*

Rethink Afghanistan is a documentary by Robert Greenwald about rethinking the current war strategy in Afghanistan. It was shown at Concordia University in December of last year to an enthusiastic audience that asked for additional screenings. It is a documentary that clearly takes a stand for ending the war efforts, with which not everyone will agree. Therefore it will be followed by an open discussion to which all viewpoints are welcome. For more information about Rethink Afghanistan and to RSVP please visit the website at <http://rethinkafghanistan.com>. The 75 -minute documentary will be preceded by a light lunch and shown at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, 12513 SE Mill Plain Blvd, Vancouver, WA.

These documentaries with accompanying discussions are the 3rd and 4th events in a 4-part series hosted by Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in an effort to offer the opportunity for the congregation as well as the general public to study and talk about the various issues and viewpoints surrounding the war in Afghanistan.



BOOK CLUB NEWS

The Book Club meets the Second Sunday of the month (November 14) at 3 PM. The November discussion will be "Let the Great World Spin, by Colum McCann and led by Laura Blaisdell.

New in the Library

One of our members has donated a book that she says is a wonderful, but difficult read. It is a new biography by Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy--a Righteous Gentile vs. the Third Reich by Eric Metaxas. Most of us that have heard of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, have heard him quoted over the years, and know a bit about his exploits. Metaxas used previously unavailable documents in his research, so this may be the most complete biographies yet of Bonhoeffer. Why would a noted theologian risk all to become a spy in an attempt to overthrow Hitler's regime? Why did he feel that Christians were obliged to stand up for the Jews? This extraordinary man's faith is examined, and ours will be too, as we read this remarkable book.

A Reminder to our Greeters

The outreach committee would like to thank all our greeters during dinner time at Wednesday @ Church on **Nov. 3rd at 5:30.**

All current greeters and any members who would like to become greeters are invited to join us.

There will be a brief orientation for new greeters which will also serve as a refresher for current greeters. Please call the church office if you would like more information.

— The Outreach Committee

PANCAKE FEST TO BENEFIT W.H.O



St. Andrew Lutheran (5607 NE Gher Rd) will host this Fest to benefit the Winter Hospitality Overflow on Saturday, October 30, from 8—2 PM. Suggested donation is \$5/person or \$20/family. All donations go to support serving the local community through W.H.O. and St. Andrew.

26th Annual Inter-Service

Walk and Knock

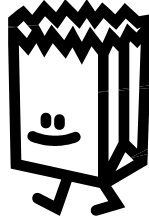
Mark your calendars – Saturday, December 4th, Beautiful Savior will send a team to help with the Clark County Walk and Knock. Please plan to participate either as a walker or driver in this year's event. More information to come!



Opportunities to learn, share, and grow ...

Free Clinic Lunches

November 4 and 18 @ 4:00PM!!



Providing food for people who are struggling is something most everyone believes in. For the past year, Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church has been engaged in just such an easy, inexpensive, hands-on project. It is called the **Free Clinic Lunch Program** and provides a sack lunch one day per month to people in our community who are in need of free medical care. Every 3rd Thursday a team gets together under the leadership of **Tim Nelson** to make and deliver nutritious sack lunches to the people waiting for medical attention at the Free Clinic of SW Washington at 4100 Plomondon St in Vancouver. The mission of the Free Clinic is to provide and facilitate access to free, compassionate, quality health care for children and adults who are otherwise unable to access such services. It is an all-volunteer clinic and is open 3 mornings and 2 evenings per week. More information about the clinic is available at <http://www.freeclinics.org/>. For the past year we have requested money and volunteer time from the congregation to make these lunches happen. Your response has been very generous and we are able now to add a second monthly lunch. **Bev Questad** has graciously volunteered to lead a second Free Clinic Lunch team on the 1st Thursday. **Jo`an Sterr** is organizing the volunteers for both teams. **If you are available at 4:00 PM for 1 hour on either the 1st or 3rd Thursday please call her.** The cost for 50 lunches is approximately \$100 and contributions can be made to this fund any time by putting your check in an envelope marked Free Clinic Lunches. Thank you for your help!!

Peace and Justice

Meets the third Monday of the month at the home of Rick and Ann Giles. Enjoy a potluck meal at 6:00 PM and then meet to discuss ways in which we can bring peace and justice to our community and world.

BLOOD DRIVE!!

November 12th—

Right now, the stores are loaded with boogymon, ghostly monster, and **EVEN LADY GAGA costumes!**, but alongside are already all kinds of pilgrim and turkey stuff and believe it or not, even Christmas trees and colorful decorations!! This year let's not forget, we are so fortunate for so many blessings and let's think about all the good things in our lives: the cute little "trick or treaters" that knock on our doors, our country and those in the armed forces around the world and then of course, the most important holiday of the year.....the celebration of our Lord's Birthday. One more blessing: the fact that we can help so very many people by sharing **the gift of life: BLOOD.....** **BSLC will be sponsoring a Blood Drive from 1 to 6 PM on Friday, November 12th.** Schedule online redcrossblood.org, sign-up after church services or contact Sandi Holland. (cookies welcomed)!

Brown Bag giving

during the Holiday Season

Food will be collected during November at church to be given to the Walk and Knock program to help the growing number in our community in need. Walk and knock usually takes place during the first of December so donations will need to be at church by the end of November.

There will be no brown bag distribution in December. The Beautiful Savior Giving Tree will offer you all an opportunity to give to those in the community who may not have Christmas gifts otherwise.

Thank you for your generous giving during the past year.

Your Social Ministries Committee and the people we serve

OPPORTUNITES ...

OPEN HOUSE MINISTRIES

Fundraising event at BSLC

**Mission of Trust Benefit Art Sale
6:30 p.m. on Friday, November 5,
here at Beautiful Savior
Open House Ministries is hosting
this event in conjunction with the
contributing artist and member of BSLC,
Heidi D. Hansen.**



W.H.O Needs You!?

In 2003, Council for the Homeless and Share partnered with the Greater Vancouver Interfaith Association to create the Winter Hospitality Overflow program, otherwise known as W.H.O. This commitment provides safe shelter during the winter months to families and individuals experiencing homelessness. The program runs every year starting in the fall and ends in the spring using volunteers from church congregations and the community. Our church signed up to provide hosts and food at **St. Andrew Lutheran in Orchards (SR 500 & Gher Road) from Sunday, November 14 through the 21st!** We're excited to be in the middle of registering members of Beautiful Savior who are willing and able to help with the rewarding opportunity to serve the homeless in our neighborhoods.

**All proceeds from the sale
(and raffle! \$1 tickets available thru Mariellen)
will be donated to
Open House Ministries children's program.
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will match funds
raised up to \$1200!**

Your art purchase will provide
a double benefit to the shelter.

To see the paintings and learn more
about Heidi's project, visit

<http://mentalwellnesschannel.com/mission.htm>.

Thrivent Choice Dollars—

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has introduced Choice Dollars as a part of their new Thrivent Choice program that lets members help determine how Thrivent Financial distributes its charitable finds. If you are a Thrivent member, you should have received a letter from Thrivent explaining how to pick the organization you want to receive your Choice Dollars. Beautiful Savior is a qualifying organization and we are registered with Thrivent to receive these funds. For more information go online to www.thrivent.com

Please check your calendar and consider your contribution to this important ministry, then fill out a volunteer form and turn it in to the church office. About 80 BSLC volunteers are needed for evening, overnight and morning shifts as well as food donations for snacks, breakfast and lunch sacks! Training and background checks for on-site volunteers is required annually. Contact Dave Hellerud, Heide Maize, Kari Albrecht and Kathy Esparza with questions. Volunteering during this one week of the year can be a very fulfilling experience, bringing hope and comfort to those in need of a helping hand. Join us!