



# THE MESSENGER

*Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church*


[www.beautifulsaviorlutheran.com](http://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**



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*The Messenger*  
*October 2010*

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## **New Church Office Hours!**

On September 14th at the monthly council meeting, the church council discussed the office hours. We will now be in the office 8:30—Noon and 1—3 PM, Monday—Friday. It was decided to shift Mariellen's hours one 1/2 hour later to accommodate more people wishing to stop by in the afternoon.

Rachel will be working from the office Monday, Wednesday and Friday (and Sunday) Her specific hours are posted on her office door.

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

Newsletter Deadline—

**Our newsletter deadline will now be the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month.** The USPS – Bulk Mail Unit changed its main sorting location for our area from Caples Branch to DT Portland. Since this change, there are times we are not receiving our newsletters in our mail boxes until after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month. To help us receive our news in a timely manner, we need to move up our deadline. Remember, you can also log on to our website to find newsletter information including the volunteer list and church calendar. **Pastor Jaech's sermons are also available online through our website!**

[www.beautifulsaviorlutheran.com](http://www.beautifulsaviorlutheran.com)

Thank you!!



## From Pastor Jaech

Dear Friends in Christ,

Jesus would often teach people by drawing their attention to the physical world of nature around them. The birds of the air...fig trees that failed to produce figs...the growth of a mustard seed. Jesus would say, "Look at them and learn about faith and life and God's dream for you."

As Autumn arrives, I wonder what lessons Jesus might draw from the changing trees. It seems to me that the trees of Autumn send us mixed messages, both of which are important. On the one hand, they signal loss and "endings" as they lose their leaves and grow bare. Typically, we don't like loss and endings. Yet, perhaps the trees are signaling to us that sometimes loss and letting go is a necessary and healthy step before new life arrives.

I look at the trees letting go of their leaves, and it brings the question, "What are the things in our lives that it's time to let go? What needs to fall away and be left behind?" We carry so many things on our shoulders: a packed schedule, countless fears, numbing addictions, old resentments, self-judgments, unfinished tasks. Perhaps the Autumn trees are telling us it's time to let go of those attached "leaves." Maybe it's time to enter a time of quiet hibernation and rest, so that our life can begin in a new way. When Jesus went off by himself into a solitary place to pray, he was showing us how to leave everything behind and put ourselves into the hands of God. What leaves do you need to let go and leave behind in this season?

Looking at the same scene in an entirely different way, Autumn sends us a second signal as well. It's not just a time of loss; it's also a time of celebration of beauty. Even as the leaves prepare to fall, they also blaze into full color. They enjoy all

their gifts and offer them to the eyes of all around them. Jesus once said, "You are salt for the earth; you are light for the world." He might have added, "You are blazing leaves of many colors! Show your glory to the world!"

Each day begins and ends. Each life begins and ends. Yet, by the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus helps us to let go of the things in our life that are necessary to leave behind. Jesus also helps us to let our God-given gifts blaze forth for what ever time we have. What beauty is wanting to shine through you this season? What gifts and color are wanting to emerge in a new way? With the journey of the seasons, God is at work to draw forth all the beauty that is in you.

Ted Loeder has a beautiful October poem with which I would like to close.

*O extravagant God,  
in this ripening, red-tinged autumn,  
waken in me a sense of joy  
in just being alive.  
Joy for nothing in general,  
except everything in particular;  
joy in sun and rain,  
mating with earth to birth a harvest;  
joy in soft light  
through shyly disrobing trees;  
joy in the acolyte moon  
setting halos around processing clouds;  
joy in the beating of a thousand wings  
mysteriously knowing which way is warm;  
joy in the taste of bread and wine;  
the smell of dawn,  
a touch, a song, a presence;  
joy in having what I cannot live without –  
other people to hold and cry and laugh with;  
joy in love,  
in you  
and that all, from first to last, is grace.*

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Rick Jaech



## BLESSING OF THE PETS—October 3, 11 AM



Each year we have a special service in which we thank God for the happiness which we receive from our pets and we ask a special blessing upon these animals. In order to properly care for both pets and people on this Sunday, these special guidelines are in order.

**The Blessing of the Pets will take place only during the 11 AM service.** If you are allergic to animals or do not wish to participate in the blessing, we recommend that you attend the 8:30 AM service that Sunday.

If your dog or cat can handle being with other people and animals, you may bring them inside for the whole service. If your pets wouldn't do well inside with others, they should be left out in your car for the beginning of the service (We are counting on cooler weather whether that date, so it will be safe for your animal to be left in the car). If the day is warm, bring your animals inside.

Smaller, quiet animals in cages (birds, gerbils, and fish) may be brought into the church for the entire service.

We trust pet owners to use their good judgment about not bringing any pets that would be too aggressive or too fearful in the presence of other animals and people. Please arrive a little early at church to walk your dog before the service.

## Bread For The World Sunday

Bread for the World Sunday is an opportunity for churches to renew their commitment to ending hunger and poverty in God's world. On **October 17** worship communities across the country will join together to lift up their voices on behalf of hungry people. Through an adult forum devoted to hunger issues and an opportunity to participate in BFTW's Offering of Letters, Beautiful Savior will engage in this important event. Please join us if you are able!

## Youth Sunday— 10/24

Please come to church on October 24th, as our high school group leads us in worship. They will be preaching, reading lessons, and leading a variety of other aspects of our service. We hope to see you there!

## 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 the last Sunday of October, 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. For a preview of the Annual Congregation's topics and a look at the proposed budget, come to the Adult Forum on October 23, which is the Sunday before the meeting.



## EDUCATION AT BSLC

### 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. 3     Who is our God? How do we picture God? Male, Female, Spirit, Light, near or far? How does that affect how we interact with God?
- Oct. 10    Who is our God? (continued...)
- Oct. 17    Caring for the World's Hungry. We will look at the ministry of Bread for the World and offer a chance to write letters in behalf of hungry people.
- Oct. 23    Annual Meeting Preview: Come and see our proposed ministry goals for 2011 and our proposed budget that will be voted on the next week.
- Oct. 31    Becoming a Community of Caring: How do we best care for our neighbor and who is our neighbor?

### Coming This Fall - A Community of Caring!

**What does it mean to follow the Way of Jesus to care about ourselves, our neighbors, and our global community? This fall, we will have the opportunity to explore this together through a focused series of adult forums and sermons. We will discuss how the ministries at Beautiful Savior already address caring for our congregation, our communities, and our world and in what ways we can continue to grow in our care for those around us. We will support each other in asking how we as individuals are called to further engage in Jesus' call to care. Look for this exciting initiative to begin in November!**

### 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

"Have you heard about God's new rapid rewards system?" Heaven and Hell will be the subject of this study on Wednesday nights at 6:30 PM.



## 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!

10/6	Sandwiches	10/13	Chinese
10/20	Sweet Tomatoes	10/27	Pizza

## CONFIRMATION CLASSES UNDERWAY

Each Wednesday evening from 6:30PM – 8:00PM, Confirmation students gather for good discussion, study and fun. This year we are exploring the main stories in both the Old and New Testaments. Pastor Jaech leads the class for the main presentation time and Gary Bohman and Dave Hellerud lead the small group discussion and fellowship events. Dave Hellerud also teams with Sara Votava in planning and leading the service projects that the students do throughout the year.

Confirmation classes are for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. If you have a child, grandchild or a friend's child in the neighborhood in this age group, please know that we invite and encourage them to attend. We would love to have them as part of our class.

## THE COMPLEXITIES OF AFGHANISTAN:

### An Invitation to Discussion

On Saturday, October 2, the Beautiful Savior Drama Team will provide an Afghan meal and perform the play, *Afghan Women*. This play, written in 2003, looks at the turmoil in Afghanistan particularly from the viewpoint of women and orphans. A suggested donation of \$20 is asked of those attending the play. This covers the cost of the meal, with all profits beyond those costs going to the Orphan Care project in Afghanistan. Orphan Care supports Afghan families who agree to become a foster family for an orphan. Orphan Care pays for education and medical care for the orphan and the family that cares for them. It has had great success in moving children from an orphanage into a more stable home environment, and it benefits entire families.

The schedule on October 2 is:

12 Noon	Afghan meal
1:30PM	<i>Afghan Women</i> play
3:30PM	Discussion

The second event will be on Tuesday, October 19, when we will have an Open Forum from 7:00PM to 8:30PM. Four guests, including people from Afghanistan, who have various viewpoints about the best course to take, will each speak for four minutes. Then, Pastor Jaech will facilitate and open discussion among everyone present who wishes to speak. The goal of the evening is not to promote or "sell" one viewpoint, but rather to let everyone speak, react and learn from one another.



## BOOK CLUB NEWS

The Book Club meets the Second Sunday of the month (October 10) at 3 PM. Watch the bulletin board for list of books that they will be discussing in the coming months!

## New in the Library

The newest addition to our BSLC Library is *In God's Name: Wisdom From the World's Great Spiritual Leaders*. In this book, twelve of the world's religious leaders are interviewed and photographed. Among them are the Archbishop of Canterbury, Pope Benedict XVI, The Dalai Lama, Imam Muhammad SayyedTantawi, and our own ELCA Presiding Bishop, Mark S. Hanson. These leaders are asked wide-ranging questions such as "Can different religions co-exist, how do you feel the presence of God, what is the meaning of life?" Since this is a National Geographic publication, the photography is superior, as is the writing. There is a one-page definition of each religion featured in the book. The photos are beautiful, and you will be moved by the words of these men and women of faith.

## OUR COFFEE HOUR TAKES PLACE IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

Join us after church on Sundays for coffee, treats and conversation. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall where there is more room to sit and chat.

## ***GIFT THE GIFT ...***

**NEXT BSLC BLOOD IS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER  
12TH, 1-6 PM. MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

## Clark County WA Chapter of Thrivent Financial Annual Thrivent Members Dinner

When: October 7th, 2010

Where: Christ Community Lutheran Church

11900 NE 96th Street, Suite 400

Vancouver, WA 98682

Time: 6:00 p.m., Dinner served at 6:30 p.m.

RSVP: By October 1 to [bobandthea@toast.net](mailto:bobandthea@toast.net)

## THANK YOU TO OUR GREETERS!

We so much appreciate the ministry carried out by our Greeters each Sunday when they welcome the guests who are worshipping with us that day! Their hospitality is a concrete gift of God's love for all.

We will say thank you to all of our Greeters during dinner time at Wednesday @ Church on November 3. That's a long way off, but we want to let all Greeters know now so you can save that date.

If you have not yet been a greeter, but would like to start, you are also invited to join us for dinner that night. Following dinner time, we will give a training orientation to new greeters. Please call the church office if you would like more information about this. Thank you for your help with this important ministry.

*The Outreach Committee*



## Opportunities to learn, share, and grow ...

### BROWN BAG COLLECTIONS

The bags of school supplies have been piled high. Thanks to you who shopped early they will be delivered before school starts.

For future planning brown bag collections are as follows:

October : HUGS, that is Hats, Underwear, Gloves, Socks

November : Canned food for Walk and Knock in December

December : Giving tree items for Share and Fort Vancouver Convalescent Center

### Free Clinic Lunches

#### October 7 and 21@ 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

Thank you to the many people of Beautiful Savior who volunteered at the **7th annual Vancouver Peace and Justice Fair on September 11**. Beautiful Savior members were not only manning the Peace and Justice booth, but were spotted volunteering at a variety of other booths and helping with main stage entertainment. Members were also spotted just enjoying the day at the fair. It was wonderful day.

**LPPO Advocacy Forum:** You are invited to a one-day workshop on Oct. 9 for a helpful overview of the ELCA advocacy ministry: why Lutherans are involved, what issues we advocate on, and how you can get involved. "Advocacy That Works to Fight Hunger and Poverty" will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church, 309 W 39th St, Vancouver, Wash. from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information or to register, please e-mail [lpoooffice@lcsnw.org](mailto:lpoooffice@lcsnw.org).

### **October 23, 2010 Habitat for Humanity**

Another volunteer opportunity is coming your way. Eight volunteers from BSLC gave their time to help build a home in our community on July 31<sup>st</sup>. Some asked if they could do it again, so this year we are lucky to do a repeat. If you were not able to participate in July, here is your chance to get your tools out. There will be a sign-up sheet on the church bulletin board or you can write Kathy Esparza. If this is something that you want to be a part of, I encourage you to sign-up. No worries, no experience or construction tools are necessary, just your generous time. Look for more details to follow on specific construction that will be happening on that day in the Sunday bulletin.

## **OPPORTUNITES ...**

### **SEARCH FOR NEW MUSICIAN CONTINUES**

Our Worship and Music committee is actively seeking and interviewing candidates for the church musician position. Job announcements have been placed in numerous church, university and organist association websites. We are committed to finding a talented musician with advanced skills on both the organ and piano. Please pray that God will bless our searching and bring to us a gifted organist/pianist. As we search, we are very thankful for Kathe Yokers, who has been our principal interim musician during this search process and has provided such beautiful music for our worship!

### **AUTUMN OUTSIDE CLEAN UP OCTOBER 9**

On Saturday, October 9, from 9AM to Noon, we need your help to clip, clean and spruce up the landscaping in front of our church and parking lot. Please bring your clippers and rakes as we trim back bushes and get things looking good before winter sets in. Thank you in advance for your help!

## **PARKING LOT PRECAUTIONS**

Please keep your car locked with valuables out of sight when you are at church. A family that worships with our Hispanic congregation on Sundays had their car window broken and an iPod stolen that was laying on the front seat. They were parked near to the Mill Plain sidewalk and someone apparently did a smash-and-grab as they walked by. Vancouver police have recently reported a higher incidence of thefts in church parking lots. In most cases, the cars had been left unlocked. Please use precautions.

## **Just Married ...**

Congratulations to Samantha and Adam Pedersen, who were married in Virginia Beach, VA on September 15th! Sam is the daughter of Art and Kim Lovell Charron. Adam is in the Air Force and is scheduled to be deployed to Afghanistan. Sam works for the FBI in Washington DC. Please keep Sam and Adam in your thoughts and prayers.

## **SPECIAL THANKS—**

Thank you to all of the wonderful people at Beautiful Savior who have been praying for me. I am overwhelmed. Once again our prayers have been answered and I am so thankful that I am in remission once again. Last week there was no visible evidence of cancer in my liver at all. Thank you to God and all of the people supporting me and talking to God about this!

I love you.

Jo`an Sterr