



THE MESSENGER

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

www.beautifulsaviorlutheran.com

WORSHIP TIMES:

8:30 and 11 AM

Sunday School & Adult Forum at 9:45 AM



The Messenger
January 2011

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

The Search for a Church Musician Continues

We continue to advertise and search for a church organist/pianist for Beautiful Savior. Two candidates have been interviewed, one of whom is still being actively considered. However, that candidate will not be free from their current position until May, so we continue to welcome new applicants. We are seeking someone who is talented and experienced in both organ and piano.

In the mean time, we are so thankful for the worshipful music that Kathe Yokers provides each Sunday. Kathy has offered to provide music for our services and also accompany the choirs until we hire a replacement for Patrick Callahan. We also thank Satya Jaech for playing the organ at our Advent II service.

Please pray that God will bring to us a wonderful and talented applicant for this important ministry.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

@ CHURCH

BEGINS AGAIN ON JANUARY 5

Choir rehearsals, Bible study, Confirmation, Elementary activities, High School discussion group, tasty dinner. It all begins again on Wednesday, January 5. See you then!

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



From Pastor Jaech

Dear Friends in Christ,

When our family gathers with friends and relatives at this time of year, we like to ask the question, "What are you looking forward to and hoping for in the New Year?" On the one hand, it is a chance to talk about actual plans that have been made, such as an up-coming trip or a project that will be started.

It is also a chance to talk about dreams and hopes that are not yet definite but deeply desired. "I hope for more satisfying work this year." "I plan to work towards better communication with my family this year." "I am going to start taking better care of my health." Our hopes and dreams can even turn to our whole country and world, and the myriad of needs and possibilities that are before us. "This is what I hope for in the world this year."

What are *you* looking forward to and hoping for in the New Year?

One of the things that gets in the way of our hopes and the dreams is the fear that change is not possible. Everything seems to be stuck in such a rut...our lives, our relationships, the world. We hesitate even to hope too deeply for something, for fear of being disappointed. There is a voice inside us that says, "Nothing will change. My dreaming is foolish."

"Behold, I make all things new." That is the promise of God spoken in the Book of Revelation. It was a cosmic promise that foretold a new heaven and a new earth. Yet it was also a down-to-earth promise of blessings and new possibilities right here and right now for God's people in their everyday life. Even as they wondered if they dared hope for anything better in their lives, God came to them and said, "Behold, I make all things new."

What are you looking forward to and hoping for in the New Year? There is something about the turning of the calendar that makes us think about new beginnings. Starting a New Year is a natural time to dream for the future.

God takes your hopes and dreams seriously. God opens up paths for us that we would never expect. The writer of Ephesians says, "Now to God who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations." (Eph. 3:20-21)

Dream deeply in this New Year. Dream and pray and act with courage. God dreams with you and for you and God comes with many blessings.

In Christ,

Pastor Jaech



Called to Care ...

Called to Care: Seeing the face of Jesus

I had the pleasure of talking with a woman who is a long-time volunteer with St. Vincent DePaul in Clark County. What I heard from her changed my thinking in a profound way. She explained that in their service to people living in poverty, homelessness, or in crisis, one tenant guides the work:

See the face of Jesus in all whom you meet.

The simplicity of this statement struck me and prompted me to think about putting the idea into action. I was quickly reminded that “simple does not equal easy.” My goal was to experiment with “seeing the face of Jesus” in everyone I came across throughout my day. I wondered what it would be like if this was my “default” way of thinking. Would I be a better person? Would I move easier through this crazy world? Would I have less conflict in my life?

At times, this way of thinking was fairly easy and was an extension of just being who I am. However, once at the grocery store, a young man in line in front of me was decked out in leather clothing covered with spikes and chains, piercings all over his face, and a hair-standing-straight up hairstyle. Needless to say, I did not default to seeing the face of Jesus in this young man. (I was mostly distracted wondering how he managed all the piercings). Of course it is because it is hard to see Jesus in those who are different from us. It was a learning moment for me.

Pastor Yokers said in a recent *Called to Care* adult forum, that the kind of love God commands us to show our neighbors isn't always the “touchy feely” kind of love. It is “agape” love. It may be more of the head than of the heart. We are called to give this love by serving God's people both when it comes naturally and when it takes great effort. The bonus is this: almost everyone says caring for others is a rewarding experience, or at least it is something that in hind sight you will be glad you did.

I still try and see the face of Jesus in my daily interactions. Sometimes the idea is top-of-mind, sometimes it's not. I do know that when I make the effort, I

feel God's presence and often a sense of connection to the people around me. If you experiment with “seeing the face of Jesus in all whom you meet” I would love to hear about it!

Contributed by Charlene Welch

WANT TO BECOME A MEDIA EXPERT AND HELP BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR?

As part of our focus on "Called to Care," we would like to engage in a year-long photo/video project to tell the story of what we as a congregation do as we care for each other, our community, and the world. We'd like to invite photographers and videographers to participate, including those who have access to cameras and would like to learn how to use them more effectively. We want to take photos and videos of all the things we as a congregation engage in, from quilting to providing lunch at the Free Clinic, to building in Mexico or singing in the cherub choir. Council member Jerry Rhodes is heading up this project. If you would like to participate, please contact Jerry or the church office at bslc@pacifier.com.

Sunday School and Adult Forum— resumes January 9th

Adult Forum meets every Sunday at 9:45am in the Church Fellowship Hall 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.



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 and support others in this journey of "life", we invite you to join us in discussion. LIVES IN TRANSITION. We will meet on January 9th @ 2 PM at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church. We welcome your ideas, thoughts, questions, and prayers.

Susan Helms-Peyer

Ginger Harshman

Margaret Thompson



WEDNESDAY AT CHURCH

January 5th

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.

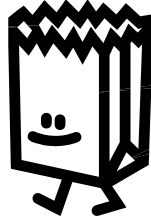
This is an opportunity for whole families, single people, older people and young ones to come together and enjoy getting better acquainted. At the same time we are being enriched by our common desire to celebrate and enrich our faith. No doubt about it, Beautiful Savior is **the** place to be on Wednesday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



Opportunities to learn, share, and grow ...

Free Clinic Lunches

January 6 and 20@ 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.

Coats Needed

Coats are being collected here anytime before January 23rd. Bring your new or clean, gently used coats for men, women, and children of all ages to church and put them in the brown bag barrel in the back hall.

These coats will be delivered to Project Homeless Connect for giving on the January 27th. This service brings homeless people together at the same time and place to receive information and services badly needed. Your coats are greatly needed and appreciated.

LWR Work Group - Join them every Thursday, 1 – 3 PM. There are baskets in the narthex containing an opportunity for you to sew a quilt block at home and return it to the church. Each “quilt kit” contains directions.



MLKJ Day Service Event

There will be a service opportunity January 17th for middle school and high school youth. We are looking into service projects in our community that we can plug into. Put this on your calendars and we'll get you more information soon!

High School Year-In-Review Party

The high school youth will be gathering Sunday, January 16th, at 7 p.m. for a Year-In-Review party. We will be celebrating the good things that happened in 2010 and making plans for 2011. Talk with Rachel, the director of faith formation, for more information.

Praying in Color

Please mark your calendars – all are invited to a two-hour workshop, Sunday, January 23rd, from 12:30-2:30, to learn about and engage in a special method of prayer. Bring your lunch and some colored pencils and learn more about what it means to “Pray in Color.” The cost for this event is \$10 per person/family if you wish to purchase the book, otherwise this event is free. Please see Rachel, the director of faith formation, for more information.

YOUTH MINISTRY FUNDRAISING

Fifty-seven households from church have already given \$16,781 in gifts or pledges for our 2011 Youth Ministry. Thank you!! Our goal is to raise \$20,000 or more by December 15 in order to keep our Youth Ministry strong in the coming year. We invite your help! Your gift will be doubled by a matching gift of \$5000 by a church family!

BSLC NEW Online Church Directory! We have an opportunity to update and add pictures for new members and those that were not able to make the photo session this past summer. Please contact me with your email address and I will send you your individual log-in information. Shannon Fitzgerald bslcwa@comcast.net