

The
GRAPEVINE NEWSLETTER
December 2019

From Your Interim Pastor

Dear People of God:

This is an exciting time for Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church! Your Call Committee has unanimously recommended a candidate to be your pastor: The Rev. Jean DeVoll Donaldson. I trust you have read your letter from the Call Committee detailing her skills and abilities demonstrated over 17 years of pastoral ministry. She will be at Beautiful Savior on Sunday, December 8th, to lead worship and preach at 8:30 and 11 AM, and will be available to meet you and answer questions at a reception between services. I hope **you** will be there! I will be praying for you and for Pastor Jean.

The next step after that will be a Congregational Meeting on December 15th, between services, to vote on extending a call to Pastor Jean and a second vote on compensation and benefits. Again, I hope **you** will be there! And, again, I will be praying for you and for Pastor Jean: may the Spirit guide everyone.

How amazing that all this is happening as we begin the holy season of Advent--a time of preparation and discernment of all the ways Christ comes to us-- but especially in the birth of the Christ Child at Christmas. "Advent" means "to come". The angel Gabriel came to Mary to tell her that the Holy Spirit would "overshadow" her and she would "conceive" and give birth... and that God would do "a new thing" in this child to be born. (Luke 1:31 & 35 and Isaiah 43:19) And now God's Spirit is moving to birth something new at Beautiful Savior! I hope **you** will be there for worship on the Sundays in December—the four Sundays of Advent and our Christmas celebrations—as we prepare our hearts and seek to make connections to all that God is

doing! Like Mary, the First Disciple, may we each respond: "I am the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your Word!" (Luke 1:38) May this Christmas be a celebration of new birth and new life in **many** ways!!

In holy anticipation and love,

Pastor Scott Dunfee



Youth and Family Ministry

-Kirsten Larsen

Thanks for supporting us in our recent trip to the Youth Leadership Summit! Here's what the two participants had to say:

Neci Thompson:

I got the chance to attend the ELCA Youth Leadership Summit in North Carolina along with a fellow youth group member. This included lots of activities focusing on how we communicate and listen to others. My most memorable activity was sitting in a circle sharing and listening to others talk about their experiences. While this weekend had a lot of great moments it also had its challenges. We were encouraged to share stories about our lives that we might not always be comfortable sharing. Leaving the Summit, I found myself with a new group of friends that had become closer to me in a couple days than many of my friends back home. I learned how to open up and express myself in ways I hadn't before. These lessons not only gave me the chance to let people in but also listen to other members of my community as they share their stories. Going home I will have all of the amazing memories I made but also the lessons I learned along the way. Going into this I had no clue what I wanted to do with my life but listening to the speakers I know that God has a plan for me and I might not know that plan right now but that doesn't mean that's it's not there. The Summit was a great experience and I highly recommend it to anyone who has the opportunity to go.

Izaiah Jones:

I went to the Youth Leadership Summit in North Carolina. My high was all the speakers because they were very inspirational. My most memorable activity was when we each got a sticky note and wrote 3 decisions we want someone else to make for us. It was very hard not to figure out things to write but to choose which ones to write. The most challenging thing to do was open up and share your stories with people you just met and don't really know. But it will definitely help for future situations like that. What I'll take back to my community is to

talk to more people and open up to people. Not just say hi and keep walking, but actually start a conversation. This was a great event and very fun. I recommend this to all youth leaders out there.

Vancouver/Camas Lutheran Young Adults group has started!

Sunday, December 15, 6 - 7:30 PM at Heathen Brewing in downtown Vancouver. Contact Kirsten for more information.



"Journey to Belonging: The Adventure of Faith and Doubt" Continues ...

A safe, open, honest time and place for asking questions, sharing doubts and dialog about exploring spirituality, what is church, the Bible and the mystery of God. Everyone welcome: those who are considering becoming part of the community at Beautiful Savior; those who are part and still have doubts and questions; wherever you are on the journey ... come and check it out!

Sunday, between services (approximately 9:45 AM) December 1st and 22nd.

Wednesday @ Church Schedule - *Resumes January 9th*

4:30 PM Cherub and Junior Choir
4:45 PM Handbell Choir
5:30 PM Dinner
January's Menu
(freewill donation \$5 per person)
TBA
6:15 PM Dinner clean-up
6:30 PM Adult Choir
6:30 PM Confirmation

Please consider helping with a **Wednesday @ Church dinner** by helping to cook, provide the dinner, or creating your own menu option, clean-up afterward and putting clean dishes away on Thursday. Please contact Laura Snyder for more information.

Peace and Justice Meeting

The Peace and Justice Ministry will be holding their monthly potluck and meeting on Monday, December 16th, 6 PM at the home of Rick/Ann Giles (6132 Broadview Lane, 98661)

Worship & Music Committee Meeting

No meeting in December
Next Meeting: January 7th, 4:30 PM

Men's Breakfast @ Shari's (Chkalov) –
December 28th, 9:30 AM



Meet Pastor Jean DeVoll Donaldson!

December 8th, 8:30 and 11 AM @ 9:45 AM there will be an opportunity (with cake!) to learn more about Pastor Jean, our Pastoral Candidate and ask questions.

December 15th, 9:45 AM, **Congregational Meeting** to vote on the Call! Be sure to attend!

Happening in December!

Advent begins December 1st. Be there to witness the first candle being lit on the Advent wreath! *"Mary and Joseph"* will be making an appearance each Sunday in Advent during the Children's message to share with us their journey to Bethlehem. Special thanks to Chris and Karen Cleveland for this delightful series of skits!

Caroling – December 15th, 1:30 PM. Meet at BSLC!

Blue Christmas – December 15th, 4:30 PM.
Scripture, music and meditations focus on the comfort God offers during dark times.

Children's Christmas Program – December 22nd both services!

Christmas Eve at Beautiful Savior:

5:00 PM – Candlelight worship for families
7:00 PM – Candlelight Lessons and Carols
10:30 PM – Candlelight worship w/ Communion

ONE SERVICE – 10 AM

December 29th

Join us as we continue to celebrate Christmas – yes, there are 12 days of Christmas!



NOTES FROM COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 12, 2019

Craft Fair -

Join us for our Annual Craft Fair - December 1st and December 8th. If you are a "crafter" or baker we would love to have donations of homemade items to sell at our craft fair. This has been a popular opportunity for both donors and buyers. Buyers love our gifts for neighbors, relatives, friends and co-workers. They are great gifts and stocking stuffers. ALL proceeds go to ministries at Beautiful Savior Lutheran.

Call Carol Taylor for more information, 360-213-8342 or bring your donations to the church office. Thank you!

Council accepted the **CALL COMMITTEE's** recommendation to call Pastor Jean Devoll-Donaldson to Beautiful Savior. Pastor Jean will preach at both services on December 8th, and the congregation will vote on the call December 15th. Watch your E-Blasts, weekly bulletins, or ask members of the Call Committee or Council for more information! Don't miss out!

Bravo! Northwest Chorale began using our space for rehearsals, and will continue to do so weekly over the next few months. Our own Jean Avery is a member of this wonderful group, brochures with performance dates are on the narthex counter!

A FEW COMMITTEE NOTES: The **STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE** reports that pledges are up from last year, and it's not too late to turn in your pledge card if you still have it! **R.I.C.** group is growing and excited about networking with others in the Metro area and planning activities in the coming year. **MEXICO MISSION** reported that excess funds from July's home building mission were used to purchase a new fridge and cooler with filtered water, and a basketball hoop, for El Divino church in Tijuana! The **HOMELESSNESS TASK FORCE** is planning for emergency shelter housing at BSLC again this coming winter.

(Note from the October meeting): Insurance paid \$2300.00 to replace the outdoor tent that was stolen in 2018. That money will be set aside for the purchase of a new tent, to be determined.

Talk to any of our Church Council members about any topics you want to know more about! Complete minutes of the monthly meetings are in the narthex in a marked binder, and members are welcome to attend the meetings to see your Council at work - second Tuesday of the month, starting at 6:30.

~~Sue Nolan, Secretary

Reconciling In Christ News -

Many great ideas were shared at the first meeting of the reformulated Reconciling in Christ task force. After taking a break for the holidays, our second meeting is planned for **Sunday, Feb. 5th at 2:00** at the church. Help us plan educational and advocacy events for the New Year. For questions contact Linda Anglin at 360-597-6093 or nwpeacenik@gmail.com



We are a
RECONCILING in CHRIST
Congregation

December Birthdays & ♥ Anniversaries ♥

*(Sorry if we missed your name;
please contact the church office)*

12/01	Tom Brossia
12/02	Jeremy Christensen
12/04	Christopher Belisle Randy Holliday
12/05	Emily Kerksen Griep
12/07	Hilary Bitz Betty Piven
12/09	Kevin Armstrong Craig Johnson
12/11	Len Ackers Amara Holmbeck
12/12	Rose Sarkkinen
12/14	Anne Cozens
12/16	Barbara Bennett
12/16	Randy ♥ Christie Holliday Davy ♥ Amy Logue
12/18	Gary ♥ Karen Sahlstrom
12/18	Ed McDonald
12/25	Andrew Mauck
12/26	Jay Suk Cordell
12/27	Joyce Catt Mardy Dye
12/27	Jeremy ♥ Ingrid Christensen
12/28	Johanna Hertel Angela Vahsholtz Andersen
12/29	Annette Cleveland