

THE BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR Grapevine

Kathe Y., editor

OCTOBER 2019



From our Interim Pastor



Dearest People of God:

When will you write? Gratitude Journals were distributed during September with the instruction to daily write down at least **5 things that happened in the previous 24 hours** for which you are grateful. Some people write in the morning, some in the evening or before bed. Anytime is ok – just so you remember all the so-called “little things”, as well as the big things, and write them down. And give thanks. When will you write?

Whom will you invite? October 6th at the 11 AM service is the annual **Pet Blessing** at Beautiful Savior. It's a great outreach opportunity. We celebrate the Festival of **St. Francis of Assisi** at both services that day. Francis was an environmentalist in the 12th century – long before anyone knew what an environmentalist was! He loved people, he loved the animals and he loved the earth. He called everything God had created his “brother and sister” – sun and moon, rivers and trees, wolves and whales, people and pets. He cared for them all as gifts from God. God calls us to do the same. May the story of Francis inspire us! Come and celebrate! Whom will you invite?

What will you give? We are being asked to return our Pledge Cards for giving in 2020 – on Sunday, October 6th. The coming year and it's ministry budget are both critical and exciting for Beautiful Savior, as you look to call a new pastor. Your Call Committee will be interviewing four candidates during the month of October – and there may be more to come. Pastoral candidates will look at the budget closely, checking the financial health and viability of this congregation. What will they see and think? Giving during July and August was below anticipated income. September's looking better – but there is some catching up to do. And there are plans to grow the budget for 2020 – including sponsoring a missionary. The ELCA Global Mission has invited Beautiful Savior to sponsor two missionaries in Egypt: Pastor Chris and Steve! Copies of a “Step Chart” with options for growing in giving have been made available to assist you in your decision making. What will you give?

How will you decorate your trunk? Saturday, October 26, 3 – 5 PM is “Trunk-or-Treat”. We open our trunks – as well as our hearts – to neighborhood children for trick-or-treating. It's great outreach ... and fun! How will you decorate your trunk?

(continued on next page)

How will you pray? How will you vote? What will you eat? Sunday, October 27, is a big day at Beautiful Savior! We'll have ONE SERVICE AT 10 AM, as we celebrate the 502nd anniversary of the Reformation and the Rite of **Confirmation** for Aloria M. The prayer for a person being confirmed is both a fitting way to remember what God was doing through the **Reformation** and to realize what God would do in all of us today: "Stir up in Aloria (and all of us!), the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm her/our faith, guide her/our life, empower her/us in serving, give her/us patience in suffering, and bring her/us to everlasting life." (ELW, p. 236) Isn't that a great prayer for the transition Aloria makes from youth to young adult – and serves on the Call Committee? Isn't that a great prayer for the transition process at Beautiful Savior? And after the service is the annual **Congregational Meeting** to adopt a budget for 2020 (based on your pledges) and to elect new members to your Church Council. And then we'll share a meal – an **Oktoberfest Potluck!** What will you eat? How will you vote? How will you pray?

PRAY, PRAY, PRAY! Prayer is the answer to every thing – or at least the place to start. Pray for the transforming power of gratitude. Pray about whom to invite to the Pet Blessing (Each Sunday we've been praying for holy conversations and gracious invitations). Pray about what you will give. Pray children have a safe, happy Halloween and that we can share the love of God along with the candy. "Taste and see that the Lord is good!" (Psalm 34:8) Pray for Aloria and all of us using that prayer for the Rite of Confirmation – that the reforming work of the Spirit continue, that the Reformation is not over, not just something in the past! Pray for a budget big enough to reflect God's values and call to ministry. Pray for those who would serve as leaders on Beautiful Savior's Church Council. Pray for the Table Fellowship that binds us together with cords that cannot be broken – whether that table is an Oktoberfest Potluck or the Holy Communion we share at the Lord's Supper!

I pray I see you at the table!

In Christ, God's love made flesh,

Pastor Scott

To ponder ...

"When we honestly ask ourselves which person in our lives means the most to us, we often find that it is those who, instead of giving advice, solutions, or cures, have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds with a warm and tender hand."

___Henri Nouwen

**"Jesus was the only teacher tall enough to see over the fences
that divide the human race into compartments."**

___Frank Crane

The process is underway ...

Keep these in your prayers.



Beautiful Savior Call Committee - September 2019

Woody N. - Lynda H. - Bill O. - Gary M. - Nancy K. - Aloria M.- Christopher B.



NOTES FROM YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

2020 BUDGET: Chuck W., Treasurer, submitted a proposed 2020 budget to Council which was approved. The final draft will be ready for the congregation to approve at the Annual Meeting in November.

COMMITTEE REPORT HIGHLIGHTS: Lots of activity within so many of our active ministries!

The **CARE TEAM** is reorganizing, and there are new faces at work! Talk to Bert A. or any member if you are interested in serving or supporting the Care Team.

PROPERTY Committee is reorganizing, Doug P. or Don H. are looking for new members to add.

BYLAWS updates have been finalized after many hours of work by Mary and Karen.

This is important as we move into the process of calling our new pastor! 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.

___Sue N., Secretary



You're Invited!

BLESSING OF THE PETS

St. Francis of Assisi Sunday

October 6, 2019
11:00 service only

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. *Join us!*
Note: 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.



ATTENTION:

Beautiful Savior's Annual Congregational meeting will be October 27, at which we will adopt our budget for 2020.

We will only have ONE SERVICE at 10:00 AM, that day.

It will be the Reformation Service with Affirmation of Baptism/Confirmation, and then with the Annual Meeting and a potluck after.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

__Sue C., Council President



Youth and Family Ministry

As we head in to the fall program year, I look forward to Reformation Sunday (this year on October 27), when we will celebrate the Affirmation of Baptism of one of our high school students. After three years of instruction, numerous sermon notes, confirmation summer camp, and service projects, they will make a public commitment to continue in the faith.

While it is important to mark this milestone in our faith journeys, I am reminded that this is not the end of the story. The beauty of our Christian faith is that it is a journey throughout our whole lives. While we can mark it with events (baptism, confirmation, etc.), our faith will have its ups and downs, periods of feeling close to God and times of feeling far from God.

Celebrating our confirmands on Reformation Sunday helps me tie these two things together. We are a church that is always being made new; we are Easter people!! In the Holy Baptism liturgy, we begin with, *“God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism.”* While we commemorate Martin Luther, the church reformer, at the end of October, we are reminded that God re-forms us each and every day to love God and love others as ourselves.

Please join us for the Affirmation of Baptism of Aloria M. on October 27! One service at 10 am, with the annual meeting to follow, plus the Oktoberfest Celebration Potluck.

__Kirsten L.



Wednesday Night @ Church!!

Cherub and Jr Choir at 4:30,



Handbells at 4:45,

Dinners will be:

Oct 2 ZITI

Oct 9 Mexican

Oct 16 Potato Bar

Oct 23 Chinese

Oct 30 Soup /Sandwiches

Freewill offering of \$5 suggested.

Dinner are from 5:30 - 6:15 pm, and clean up from 6:15 until 6:30.

Adult Choir at 6:30.

Confirmation and Bible Study at 6:30.

Hope you will join us for a delicious meal and fellowship!!

__Laura S.

Worship and Music Committee

meets Tuesdays
October 1 & November 6
at 4:30 PM.



**The Memorial Service
giving thanks for Shirley V.
will be Saturday, October 5, at 3 PM.
Celebrate her resurrection!**

ATTENTION PEOPLE OF BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN . . .

God may be calling you to serve as
Acolyte -- Cantor -- Reader --
Communion Assistant -- Usher . . .

Kathe Y. will lead a **training event**
on **Sunday, October 13**, between Services at **10 AM**
for the job you wish to learn.

* * * * *



STILL NEEDED! PERHAPS YOU!!!

SOMEONE to take on the responsibility for co-ordinating the blood drives at BSLC.
Is God calling YOU? Talk with Phil Y. for details and more information.

There is a growing, desperate need for blood donations!

THE NEXT BLOOD DRAW AT BSLC WILL BE HELD DECEMBER 6.

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, October 26TH

9:30 AM

at Shari's (Chkalov/Mill Plain)



Good eats,
good conversation,
good friendships!

Adult Education Opportunities

Wednesday Bible Study

"Temptation, Blame, Shame ... and New Life!"
Bible Study on the story of "The Fall" in Genesis (3:1-29). This story has been so misunderstood and misused – in ways that are abusive – literally and spiritually. What does it really say about temptation and sin, gender, human relationships and God? What's the liberating, life-giving Word? Join us 10:30 to 11:30 AM, in the middle classroom at BSLC. New students, friends, and neighbors are welcome. Bring your doubts and questions. Led by Pastor Scott.

Gather Bible Study,

Thursdays, 10 - 11:30 AM
with Nancy K.



Women's Spiritual Practices

with Barbara Brown Taylor's new book **"Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others"**. We'll meet some Thursdays, from 6:30 – 8. (The group will decide on the best time and place for each meeting.) Please join us as we discover how other people and traditions encounter the God. Need more details or have questions, contact Kathie F.



PUB Theology TBA



Please consider joining the other women of the SW Washington Synodical group at the annual convention to be held:

**October 12, 2019
9:30 AM – 4:00 PM**

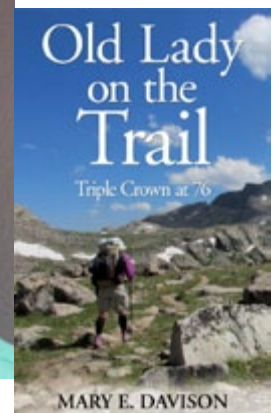
**Christ Lutheran Church
8211 112th St. SW Lakewood, WA 98498**
Guest speaker -- Pastor Mary E. Davison, author of ***An Old Lady on the Trail: Triple Crown at 76.***

Price: \$30 before Oct. 1 & \$40 after that.
Registration forms are on the "sign-up" bulletin board or if you receive the SWATCH newsletter, it is there.

Questions?

Call Jan Saylor of Bethel Lutheran in Brush Prairie at 360 687-5758.

It is about a 2 ½ hour drive to Lakewood so you could carpool & make it a long day or stay over. If you plan to attend, let Sue C. or Nancy K. know for carpooling.



WOMEN: As we look ahead to activities for the coming year, **BSLC wants to know whether to include a Women's Retreat on the 2020 calendar.**

If you are interested in attending a Women's Retreat, please email Jean A. by October 13.

If you are interested in helping with a Retreat, please indicate that as well. In the meantime, feel free to chat with the 14 women who attended the 2019 Retreat at Mt. Angel Abbey.

MEXICO MISSION



Shred Day...Saturday, Oct. 5, 10am-1pm!



Do you love children? Laughing? Learning? Teaching? Crafting? Singing? Jesus? Please consider being a Sunday school assistant! As of this writing, we have a one-room classroom for about a dozen children (pre-school thru 6th grade), and we meet most Sunday mornings from 9:45am-10:45am. Whether you can assist in the classroom once a year, once a month, or every Sunday, your help, friendship, laughter, insights, voices, and love will be welcome! If interested, please call or text Raegen T.

Think you might want to dedicate more time to Christian Education down the road? We are planting seeds for the future! By Fall next year, at least one of our current teachers intends to “retire” from the classroom; that means you have a full year to prayerfully consider becoming a full-time Sunday school teacher! Our Sunday school program runs September thru the first Sunday in May. Please call or text Raegen T. for more information.

P. S.

The couple who manages the **Life Pax program throughout Vancouver** is ready to retire. Might you be interested in leading the Life Pax program? Please contact Raegen T. for more information.



Lutheran World Relief
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

Service Opportunities

BSLC's LWR Quilters

work each Thursday
from 10 AM - 2:30 PM
Be welcome!



Thank you for donations & help!



PEACE AND JUSTICE

The Peace & Justice Ministry
will be holding their monthly
potluck and meeting
on Monday, October 21, 6 PM
at the home of Rick and Ann G.



BSLC had a display at the Peace & Justice Fair, Sept. 14th, at Esther Short Park that highlighted the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service. Donations were received of over \$50 to help LIRS provide legal services to those in Detention Centers. Fair-goers were asked to list on Post-It Notes the countries from which their forbears had emigrated. It was so interesting to see the huge variety, and to celebrate our oneness as Americans. The kids also had great fun.

Brown Bag

Ministry

For October ... give
HUGS!



Hats, Underwear, Gloves, Socks!

Put them in the big bin in the hall
next to the Men's Restroom.

Bless people in need!
—Your Social Ministries Committee
and the people we serve



LUNCH MAKING for the FREE CLINIC



Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
can always use your help or \$\$ donations.

Each month lunches are made
and delivered on
the 2nd + 4th Tuesdays
& the 1st, 3rd + 5th Thursdays.



HIKING

will
resume
in the spring!

Keep walking!



THE GOBLINS, GHOSTS AND WITCHES ARE GETTING READY TO DESCEND UPON US.



That means it's time to start planning how you are going to decorate your **TRUNK'S**. This is a fun activity for Parents, Grandparents and adults who love getting dressed up in Halloween attire.

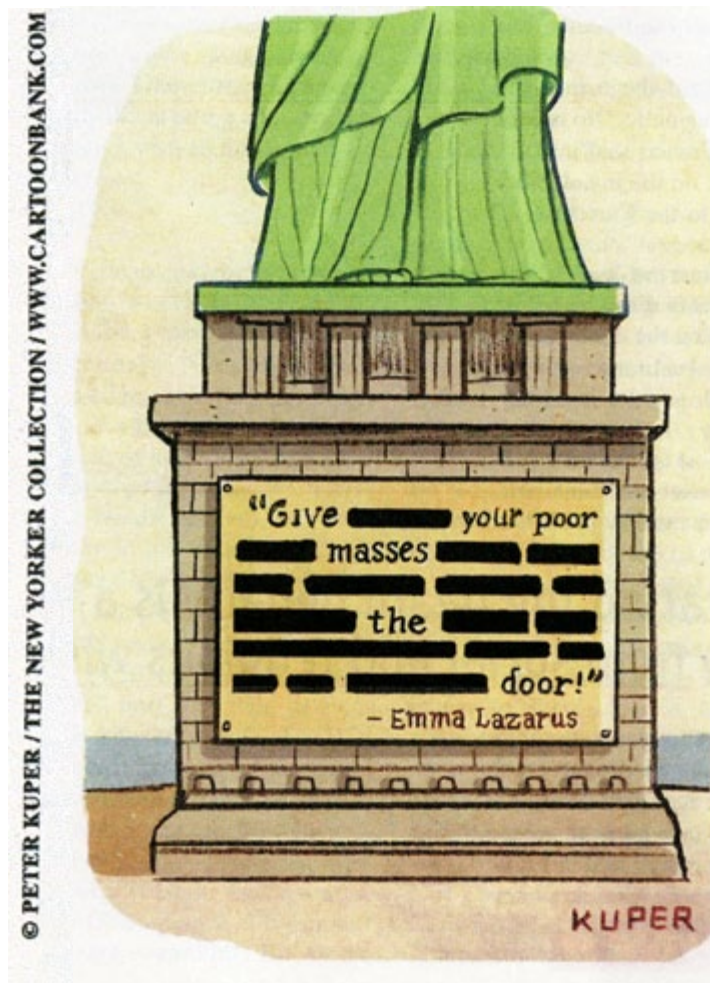
THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE will host this event:

Trunk or Treat

on **Saturday, October 26, 3 - 5pm.**

Come, dressed up in a costume and decorate your trunk in a Halloween theme stocked with goodies for the kids (and not so little kids)! Like Blessing of the Pets, this is a great outreach event! Invite your neighbors, grandchildren, and friends!

If you would like to participate, contact Karen G.
OR sign-up in the narthex (go to the bulletin board by the kitchen).



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Poet: Emma Lazarus - 1849-1887

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,
With conquering limbs astride from land to land;
Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand
Glow world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command
The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.
"Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries she
With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

Posthumously famous for her sonnet, "The New Colossus," which is engraved on the base of the Statue of Liberty, Emma Lazarus is considered America's first important Jewish poet.

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) welcomes immigrants to our nation and works with them to obtain safety and citizenship.

Stewardship corner

God isn't a "penny pincher";
we are given our lives and abilities and
family and friends and and and . . .
all that we have and are comes from God.

It is our privilege to be allowed and invited
to participate in the mission of our loving
God so that more people can come to
know the grace and amazing love of God
for each and every person on earth.

God loves a cheerful giver!
If it comes hard out of your pocket, put it back.
If giving or increasing your giving troubles you,
then take this to the Lord in prayer. Ask God
to help you understand what's going on in your
heart and help you discover joy in giving.

__Kathe Y.



Dear Readers and Contributors,

I am making some changes in my life due to health issues and will no longer be editing the church newsletter (at least for a while). I have been your editor since August 2011 and have enjoyed working with you all and trying to keep our "lives together" up-to-date.

Mariellen will once again be doing this task so please send all your submissions to her at the church office:

bslc@beautifulsaviorlutheran.com

Thank you for your articles and information and inspirational pieces over the years. It has been my privilege to volunteer in this effort and serve you in this way.

__Kathe Y. 😊

Remember:

The **DEADLINE** for submissions to The Grapevine is the **15th** of each month.

*Please send submissions to bslc@beautifulsaviorlutheran.com
using JPG files to send pictures; docx files to send text.*

*Mariellen will reply when she receives your article; if no reply... send it again.
And know that the church office may edit any copy for length or clarity. Thank you!*

A newsletter is one vehicle to keep the congregation informed as to what's going on & why.

TAKING ROOT:

Ethiopians planted 350 million trees in one day in late July to combat the effects of deforestation and climate change. This feat beat the previous record, set when India planted 50 million trees in 2016 in one day. Ethiopia's plan calls for eventually planting 4 billion trees. Over the past century Ethiopia lost about 30 percent of its forests.

(The Hill, July 29)

“Unless something dramatic changes, gun violence will remain a distinctly American problem for the rest of our lives--background checks or no.”

—political correspondent Dylan Matthews, arguing that large-scaled confiscation of guns is necessary for a significant reduction in firearm violence in America

(Vox, August 4)

How does your faith speak to what you read?

STRESSED OUT:

Researchers at the University of Michigan have concluded that hard work and poverty are killing working-class Americans more than despair. Their research counters a prevailing notion that working-class and poor people are dying mostly from opioid addictions and suicides, fueled by despair. Working-class and poor people suffer higher rates of cardiovascular deaths and death from certain kinds of cancer than better-educated people, which likely explains the difference in life expectancy between the two groups. These death rates, the researchers suggest, could be the consequence of the wear and tear on hard-working bodies and stress from attempting to make ends meet.

(Pacific Standard, June 17)

“It’s not politicizing an event . . . [to say that] we have not just a gun epidemic in this country, but we have a hate epidemic in this country.”

—Veronica Escobar, a Democrat who represents El Paso in Congress, speaking on *Meet the Press* after the mass shooting in El Paso
(Columbia Journalism Review, August 5)

“Slavery was undeniably a font of phenomenal wealth. By the eve of the Civil War, the Mississippi Valley was home to more millionaires per capita than anywhere else in the United States. Cotton grown and picked by enslaved workers was the nation’s most valuable export. What made the cotton economy boom in the United States, and not in all the other far-flung parts of the world with climates and soil suitable to the crop, was our nation’s unflinching willingness to use violence on nonwhite people and to exert its will on seemingly endless supplies of land and labor.”

Matthew Desmond in The New York Times

“The abolition of slavery did not end white supremacy. Wealthy white Southerners lost most of their wealth right after the Civil War, but regained most of it by re-establishing the region’s aristocracy and oppressive racial hierarchy. When federal troops were pulled out of the South in 1877, ending Reconstruction, the newly freed slaves were violently locked out of political and economic life. Many were forced into sharecropping, an exploitative form of pseudo-slavery. Northern politicians embraced legal and de facto segregation as well. African-Americans fleeing apartheid regimes in the South were squeezed into economically depressed slums by discriminatory lending laws. A century of legal discrimination crippled black families’ ability to get decent educations, find jobs, buy homes, and build wealth. That legacy endures. In 2016, the average black family had a net worth of \$17,600, compared with \$171,000 for the average white family.”

(The Week, August 30, 2019)

youth
empowerment
project

You're Invited to the Youth Empowerment Project



Our future needs youth voice, and our local communities need to be empowered now more than ever. That's why Christopher Belisle and Prevent Coalition (the community group he coordinates) launched the Youth Empowerment Project in September. Learn more and join our youth leaders who made it happen at www.youthnow.me/yep and consider being in the group.



When and Where: The next meetings are:
ESD 112 Conference Center at 2500 NE 65th Ave. Vancouver
10/15/19 in Columbia Room
11/19/19 in Skamania Room
12/10/19 in Rainier Room
1/21/20 in Skamania Room
2/18/20 in Wahliakum Room
3/17/20 in Cowlitz Room
4/21/20 in Skamania Room
5/19/20 in Skamania Room
from 2:30-3:30 pm each meeting.

YEP

youth
adult
collab

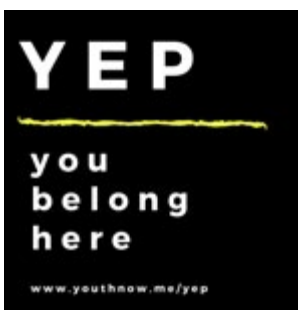
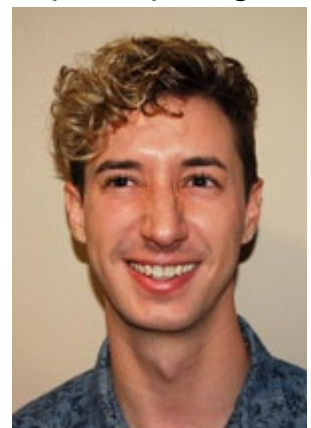
Who: This is for both youth (ideally ages 13-18) and caring adults!
Christopher Belisle is the project coordinator.

How: Visit www.youthnow.me/yep.

We'll learn about discerning our spirit and community culture, empowerment and what it means to have a voice, participating in a presentation and public speaking workshop, learning about group development and more!

For more information, contact Christopher.belisle@esd112.org especially if you know a youth or supportive adult who might be interested in getting involved.

___*Christopher B.*



To think about ...

**“Churches should be
the most honest places in town,
not the happiest places in town.”**

__Walter Brueggemann

**“How monotonously alike
all the great tyrants and conquerors have been.
How gloriously different are the saints!”**

__C. S. Lewis

**Giving isn't meant to be a punishment or a hardship;
it's an exciting opportunity and a privilege.
What will God do with our resources, as we share them?**

Now enjoy a chuckle ..

When Mark Twain left piloting boats on the Mississippi River,
he traveled west
to become a newspaper reporter in Carson City, Nevada.
From there he wrote an old friend:

**“Carson City is a den of booze, wild women and 24-hour gambling.
Certainly no place for a good Presbyterian.
Therefore I no longer am one!”**

*__shared by David S.
Thanks, David!*

