

# The Messenger

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church  
6995 West 120<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Broomfield, Colorado 80020  
303-469-1785

[www.beautifulsavior-lcms.org](http://www.beautifulsavior-lcms.org)



Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church  
PO Box 8  
Broomfield, CO 80038-0008

## Keeping First Things First in 2017

Happy New Year! When it comes to New Year's resolutions we make one of two mistakes. Either we make resolutions with such an unrealistic mindset that we're sure to be dejected, depressed, or even devastated if we fail. In other words, we make resolutions forgetting that we can't be perfect people this side of heaven. The second mistake is when we don't make resolutions at all. New Year's resolutions can be good, and the turn of a calendar year is a fitting time to evaluate your life and pray for God's help to make some changes.

Let me share with you the "Life Priorities" that I have jotted down in the first page of my prayer journal. As 2017 begins I pray the Lord will help me to make progress in these priorities, and especially in "Keeping First Things First".

- 1) Nurture relationship with God
- 2) Nurture relationship with my wife
- 3) Nurture relationship with my children
- 4) Nurture relationship with the flock under my spiritual care

In this list are very important people. But at the top of the list stands God. Keeping first things first means that first and foremost we nurture our relationship with God. How do you do that? Truth is, God does it. He established the relationship when we were baptized, when we were brought to faith, and He also nurtures it. But, He nurtures it through certain means. Those means are the Word and Sacraments. The truth about nurturing our relationship with God is that there are no short cuts. We can't neglect to use the Word and Sacraments and still expect the relationship to remain vital and vibrant. The good news is that when we use the Word and Sacraments with faith, the Holy Spirit promises us a joyful relationship with our God, in which we bear fruit according to His will. So, that is my main goal in 2017. If I rush ahead and get excited about other goals without devoting due attention to this primary goal, the results won't be lasting.

Let's keep this in mind throughout the new year. Let's seek ways to encourage one another in nurturing our relationship with God. Attending the Divine Service every week is a good way not only to nurture your own relationship with God but also to encourage others to do the same, for when people see you in church, they are encouraged in their own faith and walk with God. Another way to encourage one another is to let them see you having personal devotions. Not to be showy, of course, but to teach and lead. Parents especially do well to let their children observe them reading the Bible at home, singing hymns, and praying.

And speaking of children, if you are a parent, ask God as this new year begins for grace to be a parent after His good pleasure. Being a parent isn't easy, but with God's help and in the forgiveness He extends to us in the means of grace, we can raise our children well. And, if you are a husband or wife, pray for God to help you fulfill your marriage vows and be a blessing to your spouse. Because marriage is God's institution and it pleases Him, we can be certain that He will help us in our marriages, if we ask Him.

And the last (but not least!) priority in my list is nurturing the relationship with the flock at Beautiful Savior. I am asking God to help me in this endeavor in 2017. You are all His dear people, and I want you to become more and more the dear people of my heart too. I hope to model for you in my words and actions the kind of Christ-like compassion, care, and concern to which God calls all Christians. In this our 60<sup>th</sup> year as Beautiful Savior in Broomfield, may God shape us into such a loving community, as together we confess His name and share His Gospel with the world.

*Pastor Groth*

*When we put  
God  
first, all other things  
fall into their proper place*

## THOSE SERVING IN JANUARY

### Ushers

---

Dan Adams

Scott Davidson

Roger Ruff

Fred Brechbuhl

---

### Elders

1/1 Rick Mericle & Cal Meisner

1/8 Cliff Evans & Mike Brown

1/15 Rick Mericle & Cal Meisner

1/22 Cliff Evans & Mike Brown

1/29 Rick Mericle & Cal Meisner

### Acolytes

1/1 Damien Dittrich & Henry Pawlak III

1/8 Joey Weinstock & Henry Pawlak III

1/15 Henry Pawlak III

1/22 Nicholas Little

1/29 Damien Dittrich

Altar Guild

Sue Rada & Martha Vinquist



## A Healthy Year

Beautiful Savior has been blessed with several new members and has lost some that have gone to their reward. Unfortunately, we've also lost some members for other reasons, personal misunderstanding, disagreements and a lack of communication. Small problems turn into what seems to be big problems without a sincere effort to find a remedy. We are all part of the body of Christ and as a body we work together. No problem is so large it can't be resolved with the help of Jesus. God tells us to reach out to the individual or individuals and explain your case in a loving way. If that doesn't work consult your Pastor or Elder.

Following Jesus involves far more than believing; it involves BELONGING. Only as we belong to Christ's body can we become what He intends us to be. In fact, it is impossible to grow to spiritual maturity by yourself. You must be connected to the other parts of the body. This connection allows the body to work and each and every member is important to its success. When a member leaves or fails to function all the other members feel it.

In today's world some people have forgotten why they join a church. Some join expecting to be served, fed and cared for. And as a member these things will happen because the other members are doing it for each other. Yet God did not intend for His churches to become country clubs where membership means privileges and perks. He placed all of us in church to serve, to care for others, to pray for leaders, to learn, to teach, and to give. If you are not doing these things maybe it's time to become a member as God intended. And when problems occur, and we all know they will, after all we are all sinners; we place it in God's hands and ask for guidance in solving the issue. The future of all churches is the members discovering the joy of being last instead of seeking to be first, to be a unifier instead of a divider. The church will become healthier. And as it gets healthier, it will have a greater impact on its community and even the people in it.

God Bless Your New Year

Rick Mericle, Elder Zone 3



**Love. Grow. Serve.**



## January Birthdays

Jan. 2	Dan Brechbuhl Dawn Weinstock
4	Cal Meisner
5	Dan Anderberg Connie Cordova
7	Jan Meisner
9	Chris Adams Maxine Craiger
12	Bleiler Young
14	Ruby Stolz
16	Matt Krueger
24	Mark Eisele William Schierkolk Pete Valdez
26	Twila Toliver
28	Kimberly Bower
29	Sylas Boniek Eleanor Bower
31	Anneliese Kropp



## January Anniversaries

Jan. 2	Karl & Linda Duchrow
5	Tom & Hillary Ulrich
8	Kurt & Chriss Hammerschmidt
16	Cal & Lynda Meisner
28	Brad & Souwanthong Pigors



**Pastor Is Having Email Trouble.** If you are concerned that an email sent by you has not been received by Pastor Groth, or if an email you expected him to send to you never got to you, please speak with Pastor or with Eleanor. We are trying to solve a pesky email issue that began December 18<sup>th</sup>. We apologize for any inconvenience.

## Sanctity of Life Sunday – January 15

At our Divine Service on January 15 and again at our Thursday evening service on January 19 we will join many Christians and fellow Lutherans in observing Sanctity of Life Sunday. This is an occasion for Christians to hear God's Word as it relates to the life issues. While this Sunday has been chosen to coincide with the anniversary of the January, 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion, nevertheless abortion is not the only issue of concern to God and to Christians. Whatever threatens to call into question the profound dignity and value of each God-given human life is a concern to God and to Christians. Therefore end-of-life issues such as physician-assisted suicide are also in view every year on Life Sunday. As well, we listen to God's counsel as He instructs us concerning family life, sexual purity, and the like. In clear focus every year on Life Sunday is the precious Gospel of the forgiveness of sins through the grace of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who is revealed in the season of Epiphany to be Son of God and Savior.

In 2017 the special theme of our Sanctity of Life Sunday is **Here We Stand**—harking back to the courageous words of faithful Dr. Luther as he stood before the Diet of Worms in 1521, confessing Christ and the unchanging truth of God's Word. Be sure to join us January 15<sup>th</sup> (or Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup>) for this special worship service. And pray that the Holy Spirit, through the Word, would enlighten and guide us in affirming the value of every human life—to the glory of God!



RALLY & MARCH INFO

## Join the Colorado March for Life, Saturday, January 28

*Dear Beautiful Savior friends, I invite you to join me for this annual event.*

*See the information below from Lutherans For Life  
Denver President Jude Donovan:*

### MARCH FOR LIFE

Saturday, January 28, 2017, 9:00AM  
Planned Parenthood, 38<sup>th</sup> & Pontiac St, Denver

For the first time ever, the March for Life takes us to the Frontlines. The March will be held around the perimeter of the Planned Parenthood clinic near Old Stapleton airport.

Please join us!!!!

50 years of Abortion in Colorado

60 million dead nationally

1 Commitment: Fight for the Child.

This will be a peaceful prayer rally and march. Please bring banners, signs and a spirit of peace & prayer.



## *A New Year's Message for "The Body of Christ"*

*"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect". (Romans 12:2)*

### ***Dear Family in Christ:***

The beginning of every New Year finds many of us making resolutions to improve our lives. Some make resolutions to strengthen their financial or professional standing. Others resolve to lose weight or to stop a bad habit and still others express the desire to improve their relationships with families and friends . . . a list of New Year Resolutions can go on and on!

While it is natural to make such resolutions at the beginning of a new year, it is also more often than not, that within a few weeks such resolutions have already been broken. Life returns to "normal", to the "status quo", and during the subsequent weeks those new resolutions can be completely forgotten.

The very heart of the Gospel may be summed up in a single word: **REPENT!** To be a disciple of Christ means to be changed by the power of the Holy Spirit . . . *"but be transformed by the renewing of your mind"* . . . resolving to discern not our own wills and desires, but the Lord's.

Resolving to live according to God's will, per the teaching of our Lord Jesus, is not restricted to the beginning of a new year but faces us every day of our lives as we live by faith in Christ. We are continually challenged to embrace change by growing in our faith, by participating more regularly in our ***Life Together*** as the Church and by reaching out to others in compassion and love. As we begin every new day, we pray that our repentance will bring us into a more intimate relationship with God, with others, and even with ourselves. Always seeking to accomplish not our own will, but the will of our loving Heavenly Father.

The beginning of a new year offers each of us an opportunity to make a resolution that matters, that transcends the goals inherent in so many New Year Resolutions and offers us a foretaste of the very Kingdom of God that, while yet to be fully revealed, is already fully present in the life of the Church. It affords us an opportunity to pursue a new beginning, to transform our commitments and words into conviction and action and to put our spiritual households into order - not only during the New Year but also for the remainder of our lives. Ultimately, making the resolution to repent is not something restricted to the beginning of a new year; rather, it is the Gospel's challenge – to be renewed in body and soul every day of our lives, to change our focus and direction in the pursuit of holiness rather than our own trivial pursuits.

We are truly blessed by God with this beginning of another New Year! In thanksgiving, may each of us make our resolution one of **repentance** and **renewal**, aimed at "the one thing needful" – pursuing our lives in accordance with the will of God and the examples of our Savior. Let us lay aside all earthly cares and resolutions – replacing them with a firm commitment to seek renewal in the Lord. And let us resolve to remain vigilant in fulfilling this resolution, especially in times of temptation, distress and despair – times when our Lord is quick to hear our prayers for help, guidance and direction. In so doing, we will discover that indeed the Lord is with us every moment and in every circumstance, giving us the resolve to grow in Christ, now and in all the days to come. ***God's peace and joy to you all in this New Year and always!***

Your fellow servant in the Lord;  
Mike Brown, President  
Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church & School  
Ph: 303 438-5766 / E: mbrown\_presbslc@comcast.net



## *“The Lutheran Hour”* Sermon Schedule for January 2017

LHM produces and airs radio and TV programming around the world in more than 80 languages. *“The Lutheran Hour”* began in 1930 and is the world’s longest-running, continually broadcast Gospel radio program. It proclaims the message of Jesus Christ to more than 1 million people every week on 1400+ North American radio stations!

Please tune to **850 KOA (AM)** at **6:00 a.m.** on **Sunday mornings** OR go on-line to hear and/or download the current or any of the previous messages at: **[www.lutheranhour.org](http://www.lutheranhour.org)**

- Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>** ***“Right on Time, Just When We Need His Grace”*** (Galatians 4:4-7)  
It’s the right time to repent, turn to God, ask for His help, and trust in the risen Savior, Jesus Christ. (Lutheran Hour Speaker: **Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz**)
- Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>** ***“God’s Real Promise of Righteousness and Justice”*** (Isaiah 42:1-9)  
Jesus brings us righteousness and justice to restore bruised reeds and reignite faintly burning wicks. (Lutheran Hour Speaker: **Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz**)
- Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>** ***“Looking For God? Look to the Lamb”*** (John 1:29-42)  
Jesus’ love, suffering, sacrifice and triumph are all expressed in that most precious of titles: The Lamb of God. (Lutheran Hour Speaker: **Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz**)
- Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>** ***“The Word of the Cross – Power for Life”*** (1 Corinthians 1:10-18)  
To the world, Jesus seemed to be a loser. He suffered what all would consider defeat in order to win new life for you. (Lutheran Hour Speaker: **Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz**)
- Jan. 29<sup>th</sup>** ***“Our Foolishness, His Faithfulness”*** (1 Corinthians 1:18-31)  
Many consider Christ’s cross to be just so much foolishness. That is the worst foolishness of all! (Lutheran Hour Speaker; Emeritus: **Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus**)

Please contact Mike Brown at (303) 438-5766 or [mbrown\\_llrmd@comcast.net](mailto:mbrown_llrmd@comcast.net) with any questions you may have about *“The Lutheran Hour”* or any of the numerous **Outreach Resources** available from **LHM**.

---

*Lutheran Hour Ministries* is a congregational outreach ministry supporting The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod and partnering churches worldwide. It is independently funded by generous Christians who want to spread the pure and powerful message of our Savior’s love in their own communities and throughout the world. For more information, please visit **[www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org)** or call **1-800-876-9880**. *THANK YOU*

***GOD BLESS YOU & HAPPY NEW YEAR!***



## *our Stewardship Message*

(January 2017)

Celebrating New Years is a celebration of the past and the future. We take stock of the past with thanksgiving and sometimes even relief (that it's over), and we look to the future in hope and anticipation and perhaps even some worry about of what it may hold.

The point is that New Year's celebrations remind us of who we are as opposed to who we would like to be; what we have done in comparison to what we want to do. It reminds us of our accomplishments, but mostly it reminds us of our failures. What we've lost. Who we've lost.

New Years is our own version of Dickens' classic *A Christmas Carol*. And we all play Scrooge. We are visited by the ghosts of our past, present, and future.

St. Paul writes: "The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. As it is written, 'He has distributed freely, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever.' He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for all your generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God". (2 Cor. 9:6-15)

St. Paul tells us that the Lord of all will both supply and increase what you need to give to the church for its work in and for the world. He tells us that this work that God is doing in us will enrich and bless us in every way and through this it will produce thanksgiving to God. With this in mind, here is some practical advice to help you take stock of your giving of years past, which will help you to change what needs to be changed, improved, or done away with altogether.

First, attend the Divine Service to receive God's gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. If you've not been faithful in attending worship to hear the preaching of God's Word, to receive forgiveness, and feast of the rich food of our Lord's body and blood for the eternal benefit of your body and soul, then repent and come to receive the gifts God freely gives. God doesn't want your money. He wants you—all of you. (Matt.22:20-22)

Second, pray for the Lord's help. Your right as a Christian is to speak with your Father, the King of all creation, freely through His Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. Go to the throne of grace and ask for strength and wisdom to follow His bidding faithfully. (John 15:1-16)

Third, consider what the Church is and what the Church does. The Church is a mercy place. It inhales the mercy of the Father by the death, resurrection, and ascension of His Son through the preaching of the Gospel and the Sacraments. It exhales this mercy in love toward the neighbor. You are a member of the Church, of God's family. Thus, you are not only a recipient of God's mercy, but a bearer of that mercy for the life of the world. You spread that mercy in showing mercy through the generous giving of your time, talent and income to support the work of the Church in and for the world, as the Israelites did in the Old Testament. (Lev. 27:1-34)

Fourth, take stock of your current giving in light of the New Testament's teaching on supporting the work of the Church. Are you giving of your first fruits, taking them out of your God given resources first, or is He getting what's left over? Are you giving voluntarily and cheerfully? Are you giving proportionally and generously? The Old Testament required a tithe, ten percent. The New Testament gives freedom to be generous, to give more for the Church's work. Are you relying on God's promise to provide and increase what you need to do His work? If your answer is no to any of these, repent. If God gave you His only Son, will He not also provide for you all things, even physical things? Trust Him, His Word, and heed it.

So, don't let your past define your future. Rather, commit for the year a generous proportion of your Time, Talents and Treasures, which are God's gifts to you for this body and life.

***We are "Consecrated Stewards" to the Glory of God!***

***GOD'S BLESSINGS TO ALL & HAPPY NEW YEAR***