

The Messenger

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
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July 

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
PO Box 8
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Celebrate Independence and *Dependence*

July begins with that great summer celebration commonly known as “The Fourth of July”, but more properly “Independence Day”. On July 4th, 1776, the American colonies officially declared themselves independent of the British crown. There followed our “War for Independence,” also called the “Revolutionary War”. I think the former title was the colonists’ preferred way of referring to the conflict, as we viewed it as our legitimate struggle for the right to govern ourselves in this new land.

241 years later, the United States of America, our beloved country, continues to be independent of Great Britain (with whom, happily, we now share a generally very close and friendly relationship). While we are an independent nation, we are not, however, totally independent. We depend for our well-being on the cooperation and support of many allied nations around the world. We depend for our prosperous way of life on good weather and the fruitfulness of the earth, as well as on human ingenuity and a healthy business environment—not to mention peace and political stability. Above all, we depend on God who gives life to all people and sustains it, and who ultimately makes all these other good things possible. American money captures our dependence upon God with the motto “In God We Trust”. Though not all Americans believe that, and though not all Americans understand “God” in the same way we Christians do, it remains true that without God, we would be nothing.

Because of our profound dependence on God, on July 4th I think we should celebrate, even more than our independence, our *dependence*. This mid-summer holiday can be a time to reflect on the many ways that God has blessed our nation over the years and continues to bless us. Such reflection will inspire wonder as we realize that God does not *have* to give us good things at all. The USA, like every nation on earth, has always been a nation of sinners. Yet God, according to His grace, still lavishes blessings upon us. (Romans 2:4 reminds us why God does this: “God’s kindness is meant to lead you to repentance”!) It would be well for us to offer fervent prayer to God that He would indeed work repentance in all Americans (beginning with us!) and draw all to His Son, Jesus, the Way, the Truth, and the Life (John 14:6).

You know, as a father of young children I am beginning to experience firsthand what I had always heard other parents talk about: how children as they grow become more and more independent. It’s happening in our home—by small steps, but it’s happening. And it’s a good and natural thing, to advance in independence. Yet I could wish nothing better for my children than that they grow up to recognize their utter *dependence* on God, and live lives of humble trust in Him who took them as His own in Baptism.

May my life be marked at its deepest level by an attitude of dependence on God. In other words, God grant that I—all of us, indeed—may live by faith. God grant us to rely on the grace and generous provision of God every day and every hour of our lives. God grant us especially to trust every moment in the promise of the Gospel—that Christ has been given to the death of the cross for us, and has been raised to life again that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life (John 3:16)!

Pastor Groth



THOSE SERVING IN JULY

Ushers

Dan Adams

Scott Davidson

Roger Ruff

Fred Brechbuhl

Elders

7/2 Rick Mericle & Cal Meisner

7/9 Cliff Evans & Mike Brown

7/16 Cal Meisner & Rick Mericle

7/23 Cliff Evans & Mike Brown

7/30 Rick Mericle & Cal Meisner

Acolytes

7/2 Joey Weinstock

7/9 Nicholas Little

7/16 Henry Pawlak III

7/23 Damien Dittrich

7/30 Joey Weinstock

Altar Guild

Shirley Quinlan and Sue Rada





SILLY BUT OH-SO WISE

While going through some old cookbooks I came across some interesting and entertaining words of wisdom. These have been passed down from the women of other Lutheran Churches. They found them to be good recipes for life and thus they included them in a cookbook. I'd like to share some with you. Perhaps you have seen some before or even used them in raising your children or training your husband.

I'll start with the one I felt to be most important, Acts 16:31. You have to look it up. Some of these are clever and funny and just play on words but all of them have a deep-rooted meaning for a better life. I'll list some, in no particular order and hope you enjoy them, I did.

- “ To handle yourself use your head, to handle others use your heart.”
- “ Religion is meant to be the bread for your daily use. Not the cake for special occasions.”
- “ Happiness adds and multiplies as we divide it with others.”
- “ Tact is the ability to close your mouth before someone else wants to.”
- “ Sad fact of life – square meals make round people.”
- “A woman with true charm is one who can make a youth feel mature, an old man youthful, and a middle-aged man completely sure of himself.”
- “ Ideas are funny little things. They don't work unless you do.”
- “ Never talk when you should be listening.”
- “ A retired husband often is a wife's full-time job.
- “ If you see someone without a smile, give them one of yours.”
- “ **Biscuits and sermons are improved by shortening.**”
- “ Anger is one letter short of danger.”
- “You can't expect people to see eye to eye with you if you are looking down on them.”
- “ Think of your future, you are going to spend the rest of your life there.”
- “ Time may heal wounds, but it doesn't do a thing for wrinkles.”
- “ The happiness of life depends upon the quality of your thoughts.”
- “ If you must strain your eyes, do it looking on the bright side.”

Have a wonderful day and remember; to cut hard-boiled eggs into slices, dip the knife in hot water.

Rick Mericle for the Board of Elders





July Birthdays

July	2	Ginny Smith
	6	Ruth Eisele
	7	Art Albrecht
	8	Patrisha Boniek Aaron Brechbuhl
	13	Hubert Diedrichs
	14	Emily Bower
	16	Pat Kubat
	19	Aurhiela Rodriguez
	21	Ali Cozad Nicholas Little

July Birthdays

27	Kristi Bower Katrina Mbise
28	Lorraine Montoya
29	Gene Wilson
30	Rowena Davis Roger Ruff



July Anniversaries

July	9	Pastor and Dawn Groth
	19	Scott and Deann Davidson



60th Anniversary Sunday at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

Sunday, August 13th 2017

****Celebration Worship Service: 10:00 A.M.***
(Divine Service with Holy Communion)

****Fellowship Meal: 11:30 A.M. – 12:15 P.M.***
(Catered Brunch Buffet in the Gymnasium)

****Anniversary Program: 12:15 – 1:00 P.M.***
(Special Guests, Memorabilia and Entertaining Fellowship)

****Ice Cream Social: 1:00 – 1:30 P.M.***
(Inside or Outside – TBD per the Weather ?)

Save the Date!

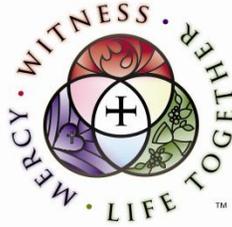
***Let's All Celebrate the Lord's Blessings for 60 years of
Ministry and Mission at Beautiful Savior!!***

Please Note:

*Child Care with Fun Activities will be provided from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

*Contact the Anniversary Committee with any questions/suggestions you may have:

Members: Patrisha Boniek, Mike Brown, Cliff Evans, Pete Valdez, Pastor Groth



In Christ, for the Church and the World

“In grateful response to God’s grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit through the Word and Sacraments, the mission of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod is to vigorously make known the love of Christ by word and deed within our churches, communities and the world.” (LCMS Mission Statement – 2010)

Dear Family in Christ:

Greetings in the name of Jesus, our risen Lord and Savior. In our ***Life Together*** have you struggled with or often neglected, as I have, with committing time for daily communication with our Lord? As I listened again to Pastor’s recent sermons (posted weekly on our web site) I was especially encouraged with his message on June 18th entitled; *“What to do When the Laborers are Few”*. (Re: www.beautifulsavior-lcms.org & link to Sermon Archive) In addition to the aforementioned sermon, I also found the following information to be of value as a means of improving my daily communication with the Lord.

Prayer Time

(Rev. James MacDonald – Walk in the Word / June 28, 2017)

He came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And He said to Peter, “So, could you not watch with me one hour?” (Matthew 26:40)

Most likely, you’ve read and heard the story so often you could almost quote the narrative by heart. You’ve spent time trying to picture what Jesus was enduring, both physically and spiritually, on that haunting night of His betrayal in the Garden of Gethsemane. You know about His anguish, about His sweat becoming **“like great drops of blood falling down to the ground”** (Luke 22:44), about His heroic prayer of surrender, **“My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will”**. (Matthew 26:39)

But perhaps one aspect of this event, implied though not explicitly narrated, has escaped your attention, at least in how it might relate to you in a practical sense. When Jesus separated Himself from Peter, James and John so He could be alone before the Father, He prayed for a solid hour. And after coming back to find His disciples asleep, He prayed again for a solid hour. Then at least part of a third - more than *two hours* of praying.

Have you ever prayed for two full hours or more? At one time? This isn’t common for most of us. In fact, I can think of times in my life when praying for *five minutes* seemed like almost an eternity.

But while we all would aspire to praying with the focus and fervency of Jesus, don’t let a current deficiency in your devotion keep you from beginning now – today – to expand your prayer horizons. Praying for an hour, though not some kind of legalistic requirement, is well within your spiritual reach if you’ll simply begin where you are and go deeper from there.

(Over)

Perhaps, if you're being truthful, three or four minutes of daily prayer would be a significant upgrade from your usual habit. If so, then set a clock on your phone for four minutes, and drop to your knees for a deliberate time of personal communication with the Father – a minute of confessing your sins, a minute of praising and worshiping Him, a minute of thanking Him for His many blessings, and a minute of asking Him to meet specific needs in your life and in the lives of others who come to mind.

That's four minutes. And that's awesome. Tomorrow it might be five. Then seven. Then ten. Then fifteen . . . and maybe more. Pretty soon you won't even need to be measuring your prayer time with a clock, nor will you be counting the minutes.

Prayer is hard work. If it wasn't, we'd all be great at it, without even trying. So we shouldn't be ashamed that it doesn't happen overnight. It takes practice to build stamina, and to stretch certain spiritual muscle groups until we're setting a longer, stronger pace in prayer.

If you've still never prayed for two hours at once – join the club. But let's join together in enlarging our experiences in prayer until we can look back and wonder why we ever thought five minutes per day with God was enough to satisfy our spiritual needs.

PRAY: Father, thank You for continuing to grow me. Thank You for inviting me into relationship with You, and for the fact that I can approach Your throne boldly based on the shed blood of Your Son, Jesus. Thank You for not giving up on me, despite the deficiencies in my trust and obedience that embarrass me to look at. I put my confidence today in You, not myself. I sense Your encouragement calling me toward You, calling me up above the limits that I too easily accept as normal and inevitable. Teach me to pray, Lord, as Jesus taught and as Jesus did. I pray today in His glorious name . . . Amen.

God's Blessings to You Always!

Your fellow servant in the Lord;

Mike Brown, President

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church & School

Ph: 303 438-5766 / E: mbrown_presbslc@comcast.net

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:6-7)

P.S. Pastor Groth is requesting suggestions for how we, as The Body of Christ, could go forward in a way to be more frequently engaged in praying for God's Ministry/Mission in our Church Body, our District, Synod, Communities, Nation, etc. Please keep this request in your prayers and submit any suggestions you may have to our Church Office, Pastor or an Elder. Thank you.



“The Lutheran Hour” Sermon Schedule for July 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 1600 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**

- July 2nd** ***“Serving in the Power of the Spirit”*** (Romans 7:1-13)
Because Christ has paid our debt, we are no longer captive to sin but are free to live for others, in His name. (Lutheran Hour Speaker: **Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz**)
- July 9th** ***“Living as Christ’s Person in Repentance and Faith”*** (Romans 7:14-25)
Life out of control? Turn to God in repentance and faith. Let Him act before you do
(Lutheran Hour Speaker: **Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz**)
- July 16th** ***“The Power of a Spirit-Given Adoption!”*** (Romans 8:12-17)
God provides for your adoption into His family, by grace through faith in Jesus and by the Power of the Holy Spirit. (Lutheran Hour Spear: **Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz**)
- July 23rd** ***“Overcoming This World’s Obstacles”*** (Romans 8:18-25)
Despite all the world’s brokenness, God has something better in store for us, through Christ.
(Lutheran Hour Spear: **Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz**)
- July 30th** ***“Confidence to Face Whatever Comes Our Way”*** (Romans 8:28-39)
No matter what life throws our way, God promises that His eternal purposes can never be thwarted. (Lutheran Hour Spear: **Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz**)

Please contact Mike Brown at (303) 438-5766 or 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** or call **1-800-876-9880**. *THANK YOU*

Our Stewardship Message

(July 2017)



I will bless you ..., so that you will be a blessing" (Gen. 12:2). The Lord blessed Abraham so that he would be a blessing. How did He bless Abraham? He promised that from His seed would come the savior of the nations. And Abraham believed that promise, trusted that the Lord would provide it just as He had promised. Thus, everything Abraham did was colored by that promise. He willingly gave of himself and his household in service to the Lord in view of that promise.

Our Father in heaven has richly blessed us. Not only has He given us everything that we need to support this body and life, but He has also provided, that promised seed in His Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. He is the savior of the nations. He is the redeemer of the world. He is the one who has conquered sin, death, and the power of the devil by His death, resurrection, and ascension.

Just as we are richly blessed, we are also thereby freed to be a blessing. Since God has endowed us with His gifts, we are set to endow others. Thus, we give of the blessings we have received so that others may be blessed. We do this in our homes, our communities, and our churches. We press the blessings God has lavished upon us in service to those around us. We use our time, our talents, and our treasures to be a blessing even as they have been a blessing to us.

The Lord blesses us. And He enlists us to be a blessing to others. So, whenever you put that envelope in the collection plate, when you set out to serve at the local food pantry, when you sit down to help your kids with homework, think of this: **The Lord has blessed you, so that you will be a blessing.**

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