

The Messenger

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2019: A Year of Sharing the Good News

Happy New Year, dear friends in Christ! My pastor's articles this year will focus on evangelism. Luke's Gospel, from which this year's Sunday Gospel readings will be drawn, includes a strong note of evangelism. God's Son, Jesus Christ, came "to seek and to save the lost" (Luke 19:10). Luke's companion volume, the Acts of the Apostles, tells in fascinating detail of the Spirit's powerful missionary work through the apostles and through all the baptized. What does it all mean for us today?—for surely it continues to be the will of Jesus that His Church "Go and make disciples" (Matthew 28:17). How shall we, as God's people saved by faith in Christ, live out our calling today to be His witnesses? These are the big questions we'll be thinking about in 2019.



Tentative Schedule of Topics for Each Month's *Messenger*

FEBRUARY ~ The Definition of Evangelism & The Need for Evangelism

MARCH ~ Fears about Evangelism and Other Impediments to Evangelism + Biblical Encouragement for Evangelism

APRIL ~ Easter and Evangelism

MAY ~ Methods of Evangelism (Dan Adams' "7-Up Evangelism" and L-A-S-S-I-E)

JUNE ~ Telling Your Personal Faith Story

JULY ~ TBD

AUGUST ~ TBD

SEPTEMBER ~ Being a Missionary Overseas (including my experiences serving in Taiwan)

OCTOBER ~ Being a Missionary Here at Home

The LWML
Beautiful Savior's Board of Evangelism
Each of us

NOVEMBER ~ The Biblical Word *Martyr* and Famous Missionaries in Church History

DECEMBER ~ The Joy of Sharing the Good News

Evangelism begins with faith, with the words, "I believe," which the Holy Spirit works in each Christian. We rely on God for guidance and for power as we "go and tell". May the Lord bless our exploration in 2019 of His call to share the Good News.

Pastor Groth

THOSE SERVING IN JANUARY

Ushers

Dan Adams

Scott Davidson

Roger Ruff

Fred Brechbuhl

Elders

1/6 Rick Mericle & Cal Meisner

1/13 Mike Brown & Cliff Evans

1/20 Cal Meisner & Rick Mericle

1/27 Cliff Evans & Mike Brown

Acolytes

1/6 Joey Weinstock

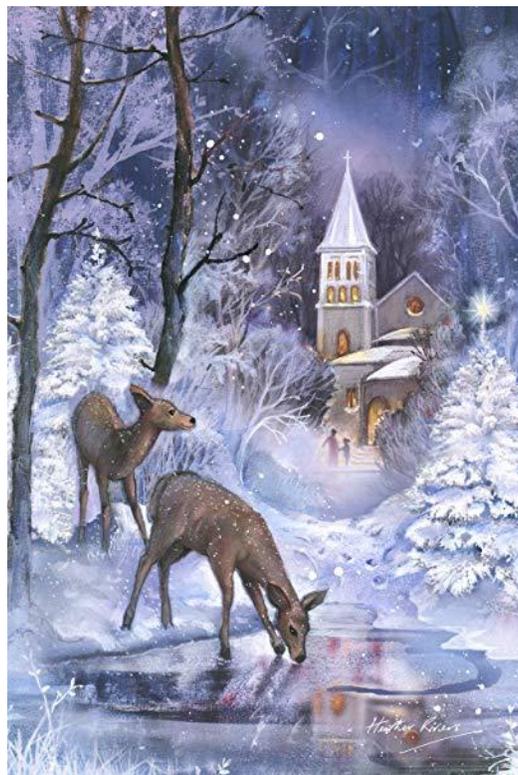
1/13 Aaron Brechbuhl

1/20 Bradley Dittrich

1/27 Nicholas Little

Altar Guild

Twila Toliver and Sue Evans





CALLING FOR E-MAIL ADDRESSES

My dear friends at Beautiful Savior, this is a note reminding you that I would like to put together a current and updated list of Beautiful Savior's members and their e-mail addresses. From time to time in the new year I would like to be able to send a message, note of encouragement, or reminder to all the members of the church in a fast and efficient manner. If you have not yet submitted your current and preferred e-mail address to me, please do so at your earliest convenience by contacting the church office or by sending an e-mail to tedgroth1970@comcast.net. Please submit your e-mail address even if you believe that I already have your current e-mail address. If for some reason you prefer not to be contacted by e-mail, that is certainly fine. Thank you for your assistance as I assemble this list.

Join the Colorado March for Life, Saturday, January 12

January brings the opportunity to join with other Coloradans in affirming the sanctity of human life. Consider attending a very special event on Saturday, January 12th, at the west steps of the beautiful Colorado capitol building. The March for Life begins at 1PM with a program featuring inspiring speakers who share our conviction that every human life is valuable and ought to be protected in law and respected and loved by all of us. At 2PM there is a relatively short "march," following a route to the west of the capitol building. If you have never attended the March for Life, you may wonder what sort of experience to expect. Know that this is a thoroughly peaceful and prayerful event. Our friends from Lutherans For Life and several Denver-area LCMS congregations usually cluster together near a small Lutherans For Life banner. Talk to Pastor Groth if you are interested in attending and possibly carpooling downtown.

Sanctity of Life Sunday – January 20

At our Divine Service on Sunday, January 20, we will join with numerous other Christian congregations to focus on our Creator's gift of life, as well as His gift of salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. Our society needs the salutary effect of a Christian witness about the true nature of humanity and the sanctity of human life. As Lutherans, we understand the authority of the written Word of God as guide to all our faith and life—including our love and regard for all people, born and unborn, well and diseased, capable and disabled, living and dying. We also understand the importance of distinguishing the doctrines of the Law and the Gospel, so that just as sin is rightly rebuked, so also repentant sinners are properly comforted with the Gospel of the grace of God. We observe the Sanctity of Human Life Sunday above all because it is another opportunity to proclaim to hurting and sin-wounded people the glorious good news of the mercy of God toward all humanity, in Christ Jesus. Prepare for a very special and inspiring Sunday on January 20th.

Service of Repentance and Remembrance of the Victims of Abortion

Hope Lutheran Church (1345 Macon St, Aurora, CO 80010) will hold a service of Repentance in Remembrance of the Victims of Abortion on Sunday, January 27th at 4 pm. Following the service, Colorado Representative Kim Ransom will speak on abortion. Kim has been active in the pro-life movement since the 1980's. Pizza will be served. Please RSVP to Lyndsay at 720-988-4861 or office@hope-aurora.org by Friday, January 25th so we know how much pizza is needed.



January Birthdays

Jan.	2	Dan Brechbuhl Dawn Weinstock
	4	Cal Meisner
	5	Dan Anderberg Connie Cordova
	7	Jan Meisner
	9	Chris Adams Maxine Craiger
	14	Ruby Stolz
	24	Mark Eisele William Schierkolk
	26	Twila Toliver
	29	Sylas Boniek Eleanor Bower
	30	Terry Post
	31	Anneliese Kropp



January Anniversaries

Jan.	5	Tom and Hillary Ulrich
	16	Cal and Lynda Meisner
	28	Brad and Souwanthong Pigors

Just Ask A Kid

1. HOW DO YOU DECIDE WHO TO MARRY?

You got to find somebody who likes the same stuff. Like, if you like sports, she should like it that you like sports, and she should keep the chips and dip coming. - Alan, age 10

No person really decides before they grow up who they're going to marry. God decides it all way before, and you get to find out later who you're stuck with. - Kirsten, age 10

2. WHAT IS THE RIGHT AGE TO GET MARRIED?

Twenty-three is the best age because you know the person FOREVER by then. - Camille, age 10

No age is good to get married at. You got to be a fool to get married. - Freddie, age 6

3. HOW CAN A STRANGER TELL IF TWO PEOPLE ARE MARRIED?

You might have to guess, based on whether they seem to be yelling at the same kids. - Derrick, age 8

4. WHAT DO YOU THINK YOUR MOM AND DAD HAVE IN COMMON?

Both don't want any more kids. - Lori, age 8

5. WHAT DO MOST PEOPLE DO ON A DATE?

Dates are for having fun, and people should use them to get to know each other. Even boys have something to say if you listen long enough. - Lynnette, age 8

On the first date, they just tell each other lies, and that usually gets them interested enough to go for a second date. - Martin, age 10

6. WHAT WOULD YOU DO ON A FIRST DATE THAT WAS TURNING SOUR?

I'd run home and play dead. The next day I would call all the newspapers and make sure they wrote about me in all the dead columns. - Craig, age 9

7. WHEN IS IT OKAY TO KISS SOMEONE?

When they're rich. - Pam, age 7

The law says you have to be eighteen, so I wouldn't want to mess with that. - Curt, age 7

The rule goes like this: if you kiss someone, then you should marry them and have kids with them. It's the right thing to do. - Howard, age 8

8. IS IT BETTER TO BE SINGLE OR MARRIED?

It's better for girls to be single but not for boys. Boys need someone to clean up after them. - Anita, age 9

9. HOW WOULD THE WORLD BE DIFFERENT IF PEOPLE DIDN'T GET MARRIED?

There sure would be a lot of kids to explain, wouldn't there? - Kevin, age 8

10. HOW WOULD YOU MAKE A MARRIAGE WORK?

Tell your wife that she looks pretty even if she looks like a truck. - Ricky, age 10





A big Thank You to all who brought food items for the Christmas Baskets and particularly to the Ballistic Volleyball Club for their contributions. With 180 girls participating in scrimmages here at Beautiful Savior on December 15 and each one bringing at least one food item, we were able to put together 17 very generous boxes of food, our food pantry is well stocked, and several boxes of food were given to Fish. To God be the glory!

We had a very good response to our Giving Tree. Gift Cards for Hope House reached a total of \$540.00. For the Denver Rescue Mission we received 18 pairs of gloves, 26 winter hats and 57 pair of socks. Thank you one and all for your generosity.

Your Name

Street Address Line 1
Street Address Line 2
City, State Zip Code

The Church Office is looking for some information. Pastor Groth would like to occasionally include the addresses of our college students in The Messenger. This way if any of our members would like to send a card or letter just to let the student know they are being thought of, they could do so. So parents, this is where you come in. Just drop a note on Eleanor's desk or jot down your student's address on the attendance pad in the pew. It couldn't be easier, so please help us with this endeavor. Thank you.



1. Each year in Colorado, thousands of kids are unable to live with their biological parents because of abuse or neglect. We need families who can provide temporary care until children reunify with their parent as well as families willing to adopt children and teens in foster care if they can't return to their families. An informal Q & A session for **foster care** will be held on **January 9 from 12:30-1:30 pm and from 5:30-6:30 pm** at the **LFS Denver Metro office (363 S. Harlan Street, Suite 105, Denver, 80226)**. Please register with Anne at anne.hamilton@lfsrm.org or 303-217-5869. One-on-one meetings can also be arranged to work around your busy schedule.

2. The **refugee program** had a busy fall with increased refugee arrivals, and we hope to welcome even more refugees in the coming year, so we need your help! We are low on **bedding** (sheet sets, bed-sized blankets, comforters, and pillows) and **cookware** (pots and pans). Can you help give a warm welcome a new refugee family by donating new or gently used items? If so, contact Jaime at jaimе.blanchard@lfsrm.org or 303-217-5181.



“The Lutheran Hour”
Sermon Schedule for January 2019

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 more than 1800 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: **www.lutheranhour.org**

- Jan. 6th** ***“The Word Turned Toward”*** (John 1:1-18)
People use their words to build bonds of trust with people they love. In Jesus, God does the same – He turns His Word toward us. (Lutheran Hour Speaker: **Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler**)
- Jan. 13th** ***“Reason to Believe”*** (John 1:19-51)
Do you have a reason to believe that everyone should believe what you believe? John did. Come and see. (Lutheran Hour Speaker: **Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler**)
- Jan. 20th** ***“My Delight is in Her”*** (Isaiah 62:1-5)
As a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, God rejoices over you. This week we explore our new name and identity as the bride of Christ.
(Guest Speaker: **Rev. Dr. Anthony (Tony) Cook**)
- Jan. 27th** ***“Surrender to Start New”*** (John 2:1-25)
Starting a new life involves surrender – a break with the past. In that surrender, the past can be restored. (Lutheran Hour Speaker: **Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler**)

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 **Outreach** and **Training Resources** available from **LHM**.

Called. Equipped. Sent.

Lutheran Hour Ministries offers equipping resources to help you reach out with the love and Good News of Jesus Christ in your everyday life.

These online courses and webinars will cover five faith-strengthening categories and use an array of multimedia elements to help you gain a hearing for the Gospel message.

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LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

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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 teachings 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 all of you 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



Our Stewardship Message

(January 2019)

It is no secret that God calls us to be generous with the gifts He has given us. Throughout the Bible, we read that just as God has generously given to us, so are we to give generously one to another. As Jesus said, “*By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another*” (John 13:35) and “*Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful*” (Luke 6:36).

But God also calls us to give to Him. And He, who does all things well, presses it into service for the benefit of all the people of God. See for example what God spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai, after he and the people were safely brought out of Egypt across the Red Sea on dry land:

The Lord said to Moses, “*Speak to the people of Israel, that they take for Me a contribution. From every man whose heart moves him you shall receive the contribution for Me. And this is the contribution that you shall receive from them: gold, silver, and bronze, blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen, goats' hair, tanned rams' skins, goatskins, acacia wood, oil for the lamps, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense, onyx stones, and stones for setting, for the ephod and for the breast piece. And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell in their midst. Exactly as I show you concerning the pattern of the tabernacle, and of all its furniture, so you shall make it*”. (Ex. 25: 1-9)

Notice in verse two that the Lord instructs Moses to tell the Israelites to “take for Me a contribution” and that from everyone motivated from gratitude for what God has just accomplished and given to them, Moses is to gather up “the contribution for Me.”

Pay attention, though, why the Lord wants the people of Israel to gather up these contributions for Him. God tells Moses precisely why: “*let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell in their midst.*” The purpose for the contribution of the Israelites was so that He may dwell with them, that He would live among them. Through the tabernacle and the priesthood, through their rites and ceremonies, through their feasts and festivals, as through means, the Lord God, who brought them out of the bondage of Egypt would live and dwell among them and be their God, and lead them into the promised land, which flowed with milk and honey.

God dwells among us still. In the fullness of time, God’s Son was born of woman, born under the law to redeem those under the law. He brought us out of bondage to sin, death, the devil, and hell, and He did this by His obedient suffering and death, His resurrection and ascension. But He is not gone. He dwells with us through the means of His Word and His sacraments, through the preaching and the teaching of our pastors, through the rites and ceremonies of our liturgy. He dwells with us in the Church through those means. And He is leading us to the true promised land, to the new heavens and the new earth in the new creation.

In the meantime, as God, even now, continues to call us to give to Him, let us, who have been saved from slavery to sin and death, the devil and hell, be so moved in our hearts as to give generously to Him so that the means of grace, the means of His gracious dwelling among us, would continue now and into the future. For just as He did then so does He do now. He presses the gifts given to Him into service for the benefit of all His people. He puts it to use so that we may have Him with us always, even unto the end of the age.

We are “Consecrated Stewards” to the Glory of God!