

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



HIGHLIGHTS

9.1

WHY SUNDAY SCHOOL?

Every week, children hear stories that can become the fabric of their existence in this world.

9.2

WELCOME HOME SUNDAY

October 27 is Welcome Home Sunday. Our goal: 100% member attendance in worship that day.

9.3

EVANGELISM CORNER

What do you say about this Jesus? Is he a legend? Liar? Lunatic? Lord? Part 3.

9.5-6

YOUTH EVENTS

Photos of VBS, our annual Canoe Trip, and getting ready for Rally Day!

Pastor's Message:

Why Sunday School?

A group of 5 year olds in this summer's Vacation Bible School reminded me of the power of God's word. As we went through the creation account, they expressed visible amazement at the news of what God made out of nothing each day. The sun, moon and stars (Wow!). Fish and birds (Wow!). Adam and Eve (Wow!). It was extremely fun to see this story through new eyes, to hear it through ears that were listening to God building the universe for the first time.

I was thinking about how important it will be for these young Christians to remember God's power over the next 10, 20, 30 years of their lives. What will be their foundation when everything in high school starts to feel shaky? What will be their comfort when they experience loss or heartbreak? What will be the outlet for their wonder at the vastness of this universe or the intricacies of the human body? The more they sit and hear teachers teach, the more opportunities we have to direct them toward God's power and grace as the answer to all those questions.

Rally Day gives us the chance for a new start, the opportunity to create a new habit. When you take your child to Sunday School and attend Bible class yourself, you are building a future for that young Christian. Each week they will hear stories that can become the fabric of their existence in this world. Each week they'll find more reasons to look forward to heaven, as the Holy Spirit does his wonderful work in their hearts (Wow!).

-Pastor Groth



Welcome Home Sunday

100% of Members in Worship October 27th

On October 27th, we are having our Welcome Home Sunday. The goal is to have 100% of our members in worship that day. One might ask, "Why is that a worthy goal?"

Have you ever been to a family reunion? Large families get pulled in a million different directions. It becomes hard for everyone to get together. Even on major holidays like Christmas it can be a challenge. So, periodically, families designate a time in the future when they will make it a priority to get together... to have a reunion. When a family plans a reunion, the goal isn't to get a quarter of the family together. You don't just want half of the family to show up. You want 100% of the family to do all they can to try and be there. It's a reunion.

God says the Church is a family. Scripture calls believers "brothers and sisters" constantly. It frequently refers to "the family of believers." The Holy Spirit is not a sloppy speaker. When he says something again and again, he is telling us, "People, this is what you are!"

Welcome Home Sunday is a spiritual family reunion. It is hard for all our members to get together. Even at Christmas or Easter, members travel to be with biological family. So, we have picked October 27th as a day for the Beautiful Savior family to get together. Because it is a family reunion, our hope is not to have a quarter of our members show up. We want more than half. All. 100%. Because we are family. It's time to have our reunion.

So, can you please set that weekend aside? Do all you can to be in town. If you already have plans for that day, can you delay them for a few hours? Family time is important and needs to be prioritized. It is no different with our Christian family. It would be very encouraging to our brothers and sisters in Christ if you would join us in worship on that day!

If you have been to a family reunion recently, you know how wonderful they can be. Uplifting. Welcome Home Sunday will be no different. It will be a chance to catch up with friends you perhaps have not seen in a while. Best of all, your Brother has already promised he is going to be there.

Stewardship Focus In September

"10 for 10" Coming to Beautiful Savior

For three Sundays, beginning on September 8th, our congregation will carry out a stewardship emphasis entitled *10 for 10*. It teaches and preaches Biblical stewardship principles for three weeks, followed by a ten-week commitment that puts giving into action. Our schedule for both worship and adult Bible study will follow this path.

September 8	Firstfruits Giving Week: "Open Hearts"
September 15	Proportionate Giving Week: "Open Minds"
September 22	Sacrificial Giving Week: "Open Hands"

Evangelism Corner

The Four L's: Legend, Liar, Lunatic, or Lord (Part 3)

Here's the next excerpt of the article titled "You Have to Do Something with This Jesus Character," which we began in our July newsletter. The article was written by Michael Berg, who is a professor at Wisconsin Lutheran College. Professor Berg specializes in teaching apologetics, a term used to describe defending and explaining our faith. We will look at more sections of this article in subsequent months.

We cannot escape the big questions of life. But why is that the case? Why are we not indifferent about the environmental impact of straws or human trafficking? Could it be that we are something different than just the material? We are not just a pile of molecules arranged differently than the soil. We are alive. But, then again, so are plants. We are different. We are aware of our surroundings and interact with the world in a more sophisticated way than the dandelion. But so do the animals. Yet we are different than the animals too, aren't we? We are self-aware. We interact with language on a higher level. We strive for something more than squirreling away nuts for the winter. We seek beauty, morality, and progress. We are often overcome with a sense of wonderment. We also seek justification, that is, we desire value. We want our existence and our actions justified. We want to be just, right, righteous. Who doesn't want to be seen as valuable, just, and right? We are, in short, created in the image of God, though damaged by the Fall. We know that we are important. Yet the greatest distinction is found in Christ. God became one of us to redeem us. This is what ultimately separates us from the dirt, dandelions, and squirrels.

We are also confessors. We have opinions, right and wrong. We speak our minds, wisely and foolishly. As apologists (those interested in defending and proclaiming Christianity) we are right to force the issue: So what do you say about this? We are right to push the skeptic's worldview to its ultimate conclusions. Can a material only view really explain the love I have for my children or the wonderment I feel looking up into the night sky or the rush I experience when I discover something new or accomplish a seemingly impossible task? Can a moral relativist justify their righteous anger towards those they believe are doing something wrong? Can human rights survive in a worldview that sees no difference between a human and a chicken? The apologist is right to ask the skeptic, "What do you say?"

For the Christian the question becomes this: Can I both present apologetical arguments such as the reliability of the New Testament texts and display the fullness of a Christian worldview? Can I offer something more than "Jesus, my friend" or "Jesus, my copilot?" Have I missed an opportunity to be profound? Have I missed an opportunity to have a real conversation about the real Jesus? Can we be evangelists armed with more than trite one-liners but with a deep understanding of the big questions? Can we be confessors?





September 2019

Beautiful Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship 8:30 & 11 AM Sunday School, 9:55 AM Bible Class, 9:55 AM <i>Holy Communion</i>	2 No School LABOR Day	3	4 Teen Group, 7 PM	5 Choir, 7 PM	6 Breakfast Club at Perkins in Fairfield 10 AM	7 B&G, 9 AM
8 Worship 8:30 & 11 AM Sunday School, 9:55 AM Bible Class, 9:55 AM <i>Rally Day Picnic</i>	9 Youth Catechism for grades 5-8 7:30 PM	10 Church Council, 7PM Evangelism, 7 PM	11 Teen Group, 7 PM	12 Choir, 7 PM	13 Breakfast Club at Perkins in Fairfield 10 AM	14 55 Plus lunch at Rick's Tavern in Fairfield, 11:30
15 Worship 8:30 & 11 AM Sunday School, 9:55 AM Bible Class, 9:55 AM <i>Holy Communion</i>	16 Youth Catechism for grades 5-8 7:30 PM	17	18 Teen Group, 7 PM	19 Choir, 7 PM	20 School Pictures 9 AM Breakfast Club at Perkins in Fairfield 10 AM	21 Elders, 8 AM Bd of Ed, 9:30 AM
22 Worship 8:30 & 11 AM Sunday School, 9:55 AM Bible Class, 9:55 AM	23 Youth Catechism for grades 5-8 7:30 PM	24	25 Teen Group, 7 PM	26 Choir, 7 PM 7-8 Grade Group 3:30 PM	27 Breakfast Club at Perkins in Fairfield 10 AM	28
29 Worship 8:30 & 11 AM Sunday School, 9:55 AM Bible Class, 9:55 AM	30 Youth Catechism for grades 5-8 7:30 PM				Special Dates in October 9-11 – Teacher Conference/No School 19 – Pumpkin Patch Festival 30 – Trunk or Treat	



We had a wonderful week of Bible lessons, games, crafts, snacks, and songs during VBS in July! The kids sang "Father, Spirit, Son" the following Sunday. Thanks to all the volunteers for helping out, and glory be to God for such a great week!





Youth Events

Canoe Trip in August

On Friday, August 9th, high school students met at Loveland Canoe and Kayak for our 7th Annual Canoe Trip. The trip was a success! Only four kids fell in the water. A new record!

Rally Day

This year's Rally Day event is Sunday, September 8th. It's so much more than just a picnic. First of all, it kicks off a new semester of adult Bible class and Sunday School, which is the topic of another article in this newsletter. The second function of Rally Day is to provide you, the people of Beautiful Savior, with a chance to invite friends and family to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ, perhaps for the first time. This is obviously no small thing.

Many people are understandably intimidated coming to a new church for the first time. Others don't see any good reason for coming at all. Rally Day helps us deal with each of those barriers. The promise of good food and a way to keep kids occupied might just be the doorway to someone hearing that their sins are forgiven through God's grace alone. Those who are a little unsure of this whole church thing get a chance to meet our Beautiful Savior family and feel welcomed. At each Rally Day I've had the chance to talk with a guest that someone else invited. I've watched as visitors were greeted by one person after another from our church. Please do consider the person or family you might invite this year to more than just a picnic.

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