

Gather, Grow, & GO Newsletter

Connecting people to Jesus as we gather, grow, and go.

JANUARY 2026

Issue 1



Church Office Hours

**Monday-
Thursday**

8 am to 4 pm

Friday

8 am to 12 pm

(913) 780-6023

office@bslcks.org

Website

www.bslcks.org



Growing in Jesus...

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR
LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL
and MOTHER'S DAY OUT

Mission

Connecting children and
families to Jesus as
we gather, grow, and go.

Preschool Office Hours

Monday — Friday

8:30 am to 4:00 pm

(913) 780-6889

Amy Schultz

Preschool Director

preschool@bslcks.org

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

... you will be called by
a new name that the mouth
of the LORD will bestow.

ISAIAH 62:2, NIV

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH



Please contact the Church office to add a request and when a prayer can be removed.



Serving stateside:

- ★ Lt. Cmdr. Michele Kerns (D.C.)
- ★ SGT, Casin Down-Wilson (KSARNG)
- ★ SGT Jacob Mattern (26th Special Tactics Squadron)
- ★ Caleb Schempp (KS ANG)
- ★ FSG Brandon Seutter (KS Army Recruiter)
- ★ SPC, Nathan Wibe (KSARNG)

Serving overseas:

- ★ 2nd Lt Austin Raetzel, KSARNG, deployment to Middle East

For those dealing with long-term illness and health concerns:

- Kathy Alber (cancer)
- Patty Allen (cancer)
- Brad Alyea (cancer)
- Tonya Baker (cancer)
- Mandy Bender (cancer)
- Dr. Gary Bertels (cancer)
- Jeff Beverstock (cancer)
- Jackson Collins (cancer)
- Richard Cooley (cancer)
- **Ray Cromer (kidney)**
- Rev. Bryan Drebes (cancer)
- Wanda Fisher (cancer)
- Brad Gellerstedt (cancer)
- Maya Goudy (cancer)
- Kevin Grace (C5 palsy)
- Michelle Hill (cancer)
- John Huss (brain cancer)
- Levi Hutcheson (birth trauma)
- Brian Jenkins (cancer)
- Beth Johnson (cancer)
- Lauren Kandt (cancer)
- Linda Knight (cancer)
- Stephen Koontz (cancer)
- Marilyn Kucks (cancer)
- Judy Landall (cancer)
- John Mahnken (cancer)
- Bonnie Malloch (cancer)
- Lorette Marsh (cancer)
- Bill Marshall (cancer)
- Holly McFarland (cancer)
- Susan Mountain (cancer)
- Melissa Nesemeier (cancer)
- Pam Ott (cancer)
- Edna Pitts (cancer)
- Brad Reece (cancer)
- Lori Russel (cancer)
- Lisa Schaefer (cancer)
- Brian Schissel (cancer)
- Randy Schlueter (cancer)
- Dave Semro (cancer)
- Tom Serafin (cancer)
- Eric Shaffer (heart surgery)
- Tyler Smith (cancer)
- **Carol Starnes (cancer)**
- Eydie Taylor (cancer)
- Ted Teuscher (stroke)
- John Turek (cancer)
- Brianna Werkert (heart surgery)
- Cindy Whitney (cancer)
- Pam Young (cancer)
- Kara Zech (cancer)

For Our Expectant Mothers: Cassie Nichols, Rachel Totten, and all other expectant mothers, and for those who long for God's gift of children.

For the Sake of the Gospel:

For Vicar Jonah Wilson as he spends his vicarage year with us.

*New additions to the continued prayer list are in **bold**.



NEWS & NOTES



For our December get-together, the Faith Alive (55+) group met on Saturday, December 13, with 53 people attending! This was our biggest group yet! We all enjoyed a special dinner of (Dave Elliott's) Pulled Pork and Turkey with sides. Yum! For dessert, a special treat was enjoyed of decadent bar cakes and a delicious chocolate Yule log.



Then came the fun – the White Elephant exchange!

Things started getting *interesting* when the stealing began. A beautiful, soft, warm blanket made it several times around. A squeaking, red chicken with no feathers made it back from last year. A lot of the other gifts were also very popular! Many gifts, I'm sure, will not be returning next year. The fun and fellowship will continue in 2026!



In January, we will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, January 10, at 4:30 pm. This will also be a catered meal, so you don't need to bring anything. We will have a special presentation by Bob Brown about the importance of Wills and Trusts and protecting your assets. Even if you think you have everything all set up, you may find it good to attend for just a review. It will be very important to get your RSVP for the catered meal. Randy Kanoy will be sending out a special email with more information and for your RSVP.

MISSIONS



Greetings in this anticipatory, watchful season of Advent. Another busy month with Fieldstone has gone by! Here are some highlights and prayer requests of our neighbors:

- We signed 22 families up for the Mission Southside Annual Christmas Store.
- BSLC donated 44 gifts and 11 gift cards to Mission Southside for their Christmas Store. Your generosity is such a joy and SO felt from our neighborhood team and our families!
- We are so grateful to our members for not only the toy donations but also the hygiene items that were donated. Thanks to Karen Siegel for that wonderful idea!

Furthermore, the special financial donations enabled us to provide Walmart gift cards before Thanksgiving to each of our 28 families that receives food each week. Your generosity is both appreciated and touching. Thank you messages were received through tears and hugs, some simply by text. Here are a few:

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MISSIONS

- * Glory to our Lord and Savior – we would like to express our deepest thank you for the support your church extended to us. We are very grateful for everything! Our love for Jesus is truly amazing.
 - * Thank you, God bless you for all you do.
 - * Thank you for this, it was a huge help.
 - * Thank you so much for blessing our family.
- Three women shopped at the Mission Southside warehouse at the beginning of December.
 - Our last Bible story discussion of the year was November 22. We are looking forward to carrying this on in the new year.
 - Seventeen of us who went to Countryside Church's Journey to Judea – attached is a photo of our group. One of our neighbors put it succinctly stating, "it was amazing". We walked through the woods for an hour from scene to scene starting with the Old Testament promise of a Redeemer, prophecy, sacrifice, the lineage of King David, and the New Testament story of Mary and Joseph through the resurrection. It was indeed an amazing journey and all the neighbors that went were so glad they did despite the chilly night.
 - We were blessed to help a widow with car repairs. Her car was not safe and she was not able to work for extra money over her Social Security income.
 - Praise God for the generosity of our neighbors, too! One single mother is donating back to BSLC a portion of what we helped her with a month ago. Another single mom has donated clothes to Mission Southside to help another family. Many are grateful and have a desire to help others also.
 - Thanks to the wonderful staff at Mission Southside especially to Ernest Acheampong, the warehouse coordinator for all his work in orchestrating food production behind the scenes.
 - Please pray for Vicky and Patricia who both suffer from back pain.
 - Please pray for those who find it hard to make ends meet due to unexpected expenses, higher prices, and cut hours at their jobs.
 - Please pray that all our neighbors at Fieldstone continue to join us in our family of faith here, that may know the peace that only is found in The Prince of Peace.



Thank you for your continued prayers, your deeds, your donations to this ministry. God is so good to connect us to neighbors just down the street.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES



The women of Beautiful Savior gathered on Saturday, December 5 for Advent by Candlelight, an evening of fellowship and reflection focused on the true meaning of Advent - the coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The 42 ladies who attended were seated at tables beautifully decorated by our hostesses to reflect the season.

We began the evening in the Fellowship Hall with appetizers and salads, then moved to the sanctuary for *The Light Has Come*, a program of scripture, songs, and candle lighting. The Light Has Come reflected on the



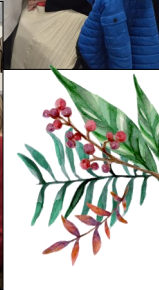
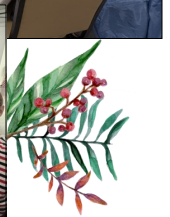
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WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

words of the Old Testament prophets who foretold the coming of the Messiah, God's own Son, who would redeem His people from their sins. We saw how these prophecies were fulfilled in Jesus in the New Testament. The program concluded with everyone lighting candles as we sang Silent Night.



We then returned to the Fellowship Hall to wrap up the evening with dessert, hot beverages, and fellowship. Thank you to the women who helped make this evening a success: Lisa Gruhn, Liesl Jensen, Marissa Lippe, Alli Bauck, Sara Zarnstorff, Connie Teig, Kristin Kinney, and Jeanette Copeland.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



This December we celebrated Jesus' birth with our children in many ways. The children heard the story in their classrooms, during chapel with our pastors and vicar, and at our two Christmas Programs. They sang about Jesus' birth during the programs, in the classrooms, and at chapel.



Our parent volunteers came to help us celebrate Christmas at our Christmas parties and blessed our team with many gifts of appreciation.



We are thankful for a wonderful first semester of preschool and are looking forward to the winter and spring semester in 2026!





When they saw the

STAR, they

rejoiced

exceedingly with

GREAT
JOY.

Matthew 2:10, ESV



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

JANUARY		January 4	January 11	January 18	January 25
Acolytes:	8:00 am	Jack McDonald Henry McDonald <i>Crucifer:</i> Ethan Wolff	Isla Delancy Christopher Chapa <i>Crucifer</i> TBD	Jack McDonald Henry McDonald	Charlotte Gardner Jack Gruhn
	10:45 am	TBD TBD <i>Crucifer:</i> TBD	Hadley Holste TBD <i>Crucifer:</i> TBD	Rowen Clark TBD	TBD TBD
Greeters:	8:00 am	Beau & Ann Campbell	Randy & Michele Barrett	Chris & Michelle Wibe	Zach & Stephanie Gardner
	10:45 am	Barb Gossen & Carol Vandenberg	Brad Keefe	Brett & Bobbie Clark	John & Connie Koetting
Altar Guild		Scott & Denise Behrman, Keith & Carolyn Clarke, and Gary & Barb Levan	Dana & Deb Froelich, Deb Hodnik, and Mary Jane Rees	Carol Brandt, Jim & Nancy DeLaney, Debbie Johnson, and Gina Stoehr	Doris Baker, Cindy Chain, Angela Hodge, Rebecca McDonald, and Sam Mohr
Education Hour Nursery:		Sheila & Aubrey Huseman <i>Helping Hands:</i> Ashley & Adam Stoll	Andrew & Cassie Nichols <i>Helping Hands:</i> Adam & Chelsie Holste	Zach & Alaina Booth <i>Helping Hands:</i> Kyle & Jessie Tsai	Michelle & Shayla McKay <i>Helping Hands:</i> Andrew & Cassie Nichols
Counters:		John Blakley Roger Berardi	TBA	TBA	TBA
Altar Flowers:		<i>Debbie Hodnik's Birthday</i>	<i>Mike Johnson's Birthday</i>	<i>George & Karen's 34th Wedding Anniversary</i>	<i>TBD</i>
		<i>TBD</i>	TBD	TBD	<i>TBD</i>
Ushers	8:00 am			10:45 am	
	Keith Clarke, Matt Horyna, Trevor Huseman Matt Riechers, and Ryan Wolff			Leo Bertels, Phil Bertels, Jeff Hiller, Blake Hughey, and Paul Peterson	



ATTENDANCE

Date	Attendance
12/7/2025	410
12/14/2025	403
12/21/2025	433
12/28/2025	349

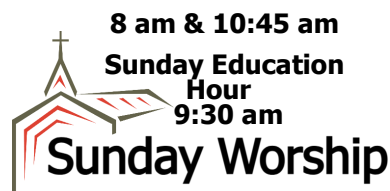
PASTORAL STAFF

Joel S. Schultz*Senior Pastor*pastorschultz@bslcks.org**Michael H. Ada***Associate Pastor*pastorada@bslcks.org**John Kastner***Associate Pastor**(Lead at LOTW)*john.kastner@bslcks.org**Jonah Wilson***Vicar*wilsonjo@csl.edu

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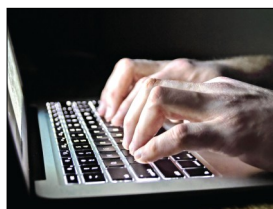


SUNDAY FUNNIES



No contest!

Submitted by Gary Olson



Jesus and Satan argue about who is the better computer programmer. After a few hours of bickering, they agree to hold a contest with God as the judge. They type furiously for several hours, lines of code streaming up the screen.

Seconds before the end of the competition, a bolt of lightning strikes, taking out the electricity. Moments later, with the power restored, God announces that the contest is over. He asks Satan to show his code.

Satan, visibly upset, cries out, "I have nothing! I lost it all when the power went out." "Very well, then," says God, "let us see if Jesus fared any better."

Jesus enters a command, and the screen comes to life in vivid display; the voices of an angelic choir pour forth from the speakers. Satan is astonished. "But how?! I lost everything, yet Jesus' program is intact! How did he do it?"

God looked at Satan and smiled. "Jesus Saves"



LUTHERAN
HOUR
MINISTRIES
www.lhm.org

[Lutheran Hour Ministries](#) (LHM) 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 the Savior's love in their own communities and throughout the world. The Lutheran Hour is available on local radio stations. To find a station search [here](#).

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Also LHM podcasts are available through these services:

