



# THE GATHER, GROW, & GO NEWSLETTER



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

DECEMBER 2020

Issue 12



13145 S. Blackbob Rd.  
Olathe, KS 66062

**Church Office**  
(913) 780-6023  
office@bslcks.org

**Preschool Office**  
(913) 780-6889  
preschool@bslcks.org

**Website**  
www.bslcks.org

### IN THIS ISSUE

Letter from Pastor..... 1  
 News & Notes ..... 2 - 3  
 Missions ..... 4  
 Women's Ministry .....5  
 Christian Education .....6  
 Youth .....6  
 Worship Assistants ..... 7  
 Sunday Funnies .....7



## FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR SCHULTZ Advent and Christmas Worship Plan

Dear Friends in Christ,

It has been a truly strange, sad, frustrating, depressing, (fill in the blank) year in the church since March. What a blessing technology has been during this time. I can't imagine the state of the church or the faith of God's people without the ability to *gather* around the Lord's Word and Sacraments. It is also a great blessing that some have been able to worship in-person for a few months now.

The pastors and elders have discussed worship plans and are glad that for now our worship schedule for Advent and Christmas will remain as it has been in the past with one exception.

- **Sundays of Advent** (November 29, December 6, 13, 20) remain as each Sunday has been.
- **Wednesdays of Advent**
  - ◇ **Advent worship**, Wednesday, December 2 at 7pm. This service will focus on the signs of the end.
  - ◇ **O Antiphon Service**, Wednesday, December 9 at 7pm. This service has become a tradition over the last few years and focuses on prayers and Scripture passages which drew the inspiration for the beloved Advent hymn: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*.
  - ◇ **Service of Lessons and Carols**, Wednesday, December 16 at 6:30pm. Through Scripture and song, this service focuses on the prophecy and fulfillment of our salvation found in Christ Jesus.
- **Christmas Eve, TO BE DETERMINED.** We will be sending out a survey link at the beginning of December to inquire if and how many of your family members are attending a live Christmas Eve service. We will then determine how many services are need to accommodate the attendance. Lastly, because the 4pm service is the most popular and cannot be overcrowded, we will use SignUp Genius to take reservations for the services.
- **Christmas Day**, Friday, December 25 at 9 am.



May the Lord continue to bless you richly through His Word!

In Christ's Service,

*Pastor Joel Schultz*

## NEWS & NOTES

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

- Sherri Webb (for continued healing following her stroke)
- Jeff Richards, cousin of Carisa McMullen (metastatic melanoma)
- Karen Blatchford, friend of Amy Freiermuth (brain cancer)
- Denise Johnson, grandmother of Danniell Christensen (pancreatic cancer)
- Aaron Krout, nephew of Bobbi Boxler (bone cancer)
- Steve Martinez, friend of Danny Hundley (cancer)
- Ron Heineke (prostate cancer)
- Joy Rodenberger (cancer)
- Ryne Clark, grandson of Judy Landall & great nephew of Ken & Sue Kreissler (cancer)
- Rev. Bryan Drebes, former associate pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church (colon cancer)
- Madi Jenkins, granddaughter of Phil & Georgia Freese (auto immune disease)
- Kim Jenkins, friend of the Martin family (breast cancer)
- Barb Gossen (Renal cancer)
- Brad Alyea, Brenda Bremer's brother (stage 4 lung cancer)
- Marian Gilkerson, Matt Shiever's mother (thyroid cancer)
- Charlotte Golloway, friend of Trish Shiever (pancreatic cancer)
- Steve Shiever, Matt Shiver's father (Prostate cancer)
- Pat Gossen (cancer)
- Maureen Friedel, cousin of Phil & Georgia Freese (liver failure)
- Moriah Obermueller (breast cancer)
- Debbie Newman (breast cancer)
- Pastor Gerardo, pastor of our partner church in Guatemala (prostate cancer)
- Moriah Obermueller (breast cancer)
- Ken Miller, Erik Miller's father (colon cancer)
- Pastor Ed Trost (mass in lung)
- Larry Barstad, Brenda Brown's brother (Stage 4 Brain cancer)
- Ted Teuscher (cancer)
- Debbie Buddish, mother of Lauran Delancy (stage 2 endometrial cancer)
- Ashley Hung, granddaughter of a close friend of Ken Knese (stage 4 brain cancer)
- Colby Vredenburg, cousin of Chris Wibe (cancer)
- Brooklyn Peterman, neighbor of Enserros (leukemia)
- Megan Herrmann, Nicole Christensen's sister (Hodgkin's Lymphoma)
- Jen Degner, Gail Mattern's mother (in hospice with stage 4 cancer)
- Bennie Smith, Bobbie Clark's uncle (Legionnaires' Disease)
- Brandon Ryan, friend of McMullens (osteosarcoma tumor near spine).

### For Military Service Men and Women:

*Serving stateside:* STAFF SGT Brandon Seutter (Ft. Knox, Ky.); MAJOR Paul Kassebaum, WO Daniel Kassebaum, SSGT Brady Cox (Ft. Offutt, Omaha Neb.), CPT. Michele Brown [Kerns] (D.C.) CAPT Stephen Kerns (Ft. Bragg, N.C.), Danny Meyers, STAFF SGT Austin Nichols, Caleb Schempp (KS Air Natl. Guard) and SGT Jacob Mattern (26th Special Tactics Squadron)

*Serving overseas:* Dakota Pierson (Germany)

**For Our Expectant Mothers:** All expectant mothers and also for those who long for God's gift of children.

### For the Sake of the Gospel:

- Vicar Luke Elowsky as he serves with us for his vicarage year.
- Pastor Richard Pingel as he ministers to those in local nursing homes.

\*New additions to the continued prayer list are in red.

**\*Please contact the Church office when a prayer can be removed.\***



# NEWS & NOTES

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today we mark the one-year milestone of Beautiful Savior's Trusting Hearts Capital Campaign. To say the world is dramatically different today than it was one year ago is a colossal understatement! It is fair to say our earthly lives have changed dramatically over the last several months. Through all these changes, one thing that has not changed but remains as steadfast as ever, is God's Word and Promises. A year ago, we kicked off the campaign with **Proverbs 3: 5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart...and He will make straight your paths."** This is just as true today as it was a year ago and it will be true tomorrow and forever! It is amazing how we chose this verse to guide us for our capital campaign more than a year ago. It was extremely fitting then, is extremely fitting today, and will be extremely fitting tomorrow. God and God's Word and Promises DO NOT change despite the world around us.



Over the last year, there have undoubtedly been circumstances in our lives that would cause us to pause and reconsider the plans to grow Beautiful Savior's mission and ministry. Instead, as a congregation in the body of Christ, we have kept our hearts focused on Proverbs 3: 5-6. On December 8 2019, we collected \$403,926 against a 3-year pledged goal of \$2,030,000. Today, we have collected **\$1,079,567.50** against a 3-year pledged goal of **\$2,030,000**. I could write several pages about the progress we have made in just one year, but I won't. I will just leave it to one word – AMAZING! We are



well on our way to meeting our goal and positioning ourselves for the next chapter in Beautiful Savior's mission and ministry in Olathe.



For those that have stayed on course with their 3-year commitment, thank you! Please continue to be steadfast and examine how God has blessed you in the past year. Are there opportunities to give more? Pray about it and **Trust in the Lord with all your heart**. For brothers and sisters that have fallen behind due to the circumstance of this world, thank you! As brothers and sisters in Christ, we are thankful for what you have been able to give and know that we love you no matter how much you are able to give and we pray for the storms in your life to cease. For those that have joined our congregation over the past year, thank you! We are joyful for your membership in our family and if you are so inclined, please consider how your family can contribute.



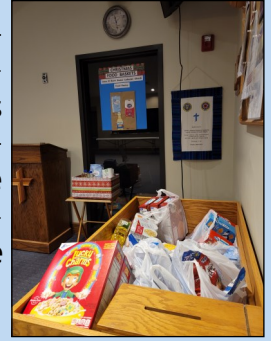
Once again, we give praise and thanks for all that has been accomplished during the last year by the grace of God! If you need more blue envelopes for the coming year, there are more located on the mailboxes in the narthex. If you have questions or concerns about your individual commitment or amount given to date, don't hesitate to contact Pastor Schultz, Kerri Schlef, or myself, Trenton Travis. Peace to you and your family during this season of Thanksgiving and the season of celebrating the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

~ Trenton Travis, Trusting Hearts Capital Campaign Chairman

## MISSIONS

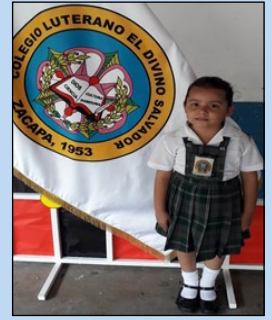


Thank you to all who helped provide food items for the 120 Christmas Food Baskets. These are distributed by the Jesus El Buen Pastor Lutheran Church Food Pantry to families during the Christmas season. A special *Thank you* goes to the preschool children for collecting food during the month of November. They helped provide items for the Christmas Food Baskets and the Pioneer Trail Backsnack program. Everyone's generosity will be a blessing to those who will receive these gifts.



### Guatemala Student Sponsorship

Over the last couple years Beautiful Savior members have been supporting 25 students who attend Colegio El divino Salvador. Funds from this project are used to purchase school supplies, uniforms, shoes and it helps to pay their tuition. The cost to support one of these students is \$25/month or \$300/year. If you would like to support one of these students please contact Pastor Ada [pastorada@bslcks.org](mailto:pastorada@bslcks.org) for more information.



### Guatemala Mission

As with all of us, 2020 has been especially difficult for our partner Church El Divino Salvador in Zacapa, Guatemala. Because of the Covid-19 pandemic that has spread all around the Globe, El Divino Salvador had to go virtual as we all did for a while. The school was also affected and had to go to remote learning as well. Many students families have not been able to pay their tuition making it difficult for the school to pay their teachers, who still continued to teach through it all. To see some of their work you can go to their [Facebook page](#) and see their online projects.

Yet despite the pandemic and all of the difficulties that 2020 has hit them with, El Divino Salvador has continued to serve those who are in need. When Hurricane Eta struck, the church reached out to many families in neighboring Gualan, bringing them much needed bottled water. Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Zacapa. If you would like to help in Zacapa please contact Pastor Ada [pastorada@bslcks.org](mailto:pastorada@bslcks.org) for more information.



# WOMEN'S MINISTRY



At the November Zoom LWML meeting, President Christy McCombs took our "blessing counts" (blessings that members have been recording in gratitude journals, etc.) and shared that we have topped 10,000 blessings since October 2018. The current count is 10,388! If you want to rejoice with us using Matt Redman's song, "10,000 Reasons", the YouTube link is [here](#).

We thank Karen Benz for four years of exemplary service as our LWML Treasurer and Marci Brockmeier for agreeing to transition with Karen and serve as our Treasurer on an interim basis.

A letter was received in November from **Adopt-A-Student** Peter Frank at the St. Louis Seminary. He is thankful for our support and continued prayers for him and his family as he takes classes and his wife teaches. Recently he shared about a class he is taking from Dr. Joel Biermann in which the question was asked, "If we did not have the Bible, would there still be a Christian faith?" Peter said, "Having never been asked that, we all struggled with how to respond, but the simple answer is, "Of course!" Our faith is not in the Bible but in Jesus Christ. We do not have faith in Jesus because we believe the Bible is true, we believe the Bible is true because Jesus rose from the dead, and that makes the Bible true. Without the Resurrection, none of Scripture would matter. The Resurrection of Jesus is the vindication of all of Scripture. ... As pastors, our responsibility will not be to prove the Bible is correct so that people will believe; our job is to point people to Jesus and tell them what He has done for them."

If you would like to connect with Peter, his email is [frankp@csl.edu](mailto:frankp@csl.edu).

**This month our LWML Mite Boxes will look like Advent Wreaths!** Beginning Sunday, December 6, and available on December 9, 13, and 16 at church, please bring your donations for LWML mission grants and place them in the "candles" of the Advent wreaths provided by Alison Willey and Christy McCombs.

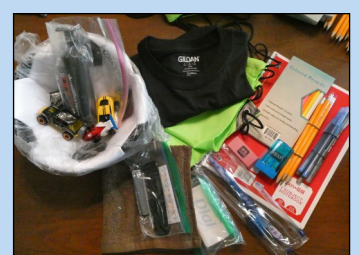
**Advent by Candlelight via Zoom is Sunday, December 6 at 6:30 pm.**



Please sign up [here](#), so we can send you the Zoom invitation! It will last 20-30 minutes and include a devotion, and a reading of Luke 2 and "Silent Night" by candlelight. You are welcome to forward the SignUpGenius to friends and family.

**Advent Mug Swap** had 36 participants. Thanks for trying something new in 2020!

Joyce Webber reported that she packed 31 boxes with donations from items shopped for (mainly online) by the Thursday morning Bible study group and dropped off at church for **Operation Christmas Child**. Funds from a Thrivent Action Team Event were used to purchase additional items. She put the trackable labels on them so we will know where they go. Thanks to the Sunday School offering that helped pay for shipping costs!



**Farmstead Treat Fundraiser** notes of thanks were received from:

- Madison Chiappetta saying in part, "This semester has been very different and full of many challenges ... This money will really help with books and tuition!"
- Nathan Harkins, "Tiffany and I are so blessed to have a home congregation that is so dedicated to our success here. Thanks again."

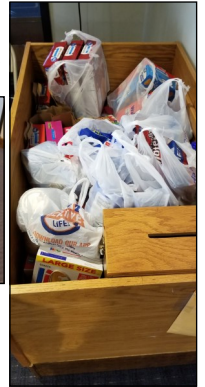
# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## Preschool News

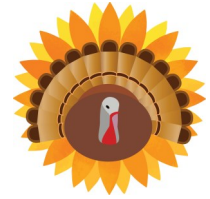
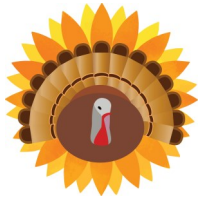


The Preschool families have been partnering with BSLC this year in collecting items for the Pioneer Trail Backsnack program and for the Christmas baskets.

Preschool and MDO children and staff enjoyed Crazy Hair Spirit Days this month. It was fun to see the creativity of our families and the excitement in the children!



Our classes made Thanksgiving placemats and hats to celebrate this year. We thank God for our preschool, our families, and Jesus!



# YOUTH



## BSLC Youth

Kansas District Youth Gathering COVID-19 style! – This year’s Kansas District Youth Gathering had to go online like so many other events. The gathering theme this year was “Clearer Vision” from Hebrews 12:1-2. We gathered at Beautiful Savior for a full day of learning, fun and service. We were reminded to ignore all the distractions that keep us from keeping our eyes of Jesus. We also spent time cleaning Black Bob Rd. and sending hand written Christmas Cards for our Service men and women. Join us on Dec. 2 as we begin our weekly “Youth Group” Advent Devotions from 6:00-6:45 pm. This year we will be focusing on the theme: “Let us go to the house of the Lord”.



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# WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

		December 6	December 13	December 20	December 27
<b>Acolytes:</b>	8:00 am	Kaylee Bahr & Alexius Wolff	Cora Delancy & George Delancy	Walter Schlef & Timothy Schlef	Alesius Wolff
	11:00 am	Evan Domsch	TBD	TBD	TBD
<b>Counters:</b>		Todd Scheumann, George Ledgerwood, Juan Martinez, Debbie Johnson	Todd Scheumann, Bob Welsh, Eric Domsch	Ron & Karen Aerni, Jared Turrel, Trevor Huseman	Jym Fees & Chuck Tuttle
<b>Altar Flowers:</b>		Karen Kuhn <i>in memory of Keith</i>	OPEN	Doug & Jennifer Mahnken <i>Kellan's Birthday</i>	Christmas Poinsettias
		John & Mia Schreiner <i>Anniversary</i>			
<b>Advent and Christmas Services</b>		<b>Midweek Services Acolytes</b>	December 2 @ 7 pm	December 9 @ 7 pm	December 16 @ 7 pm
			Carter Clark & Cora Schneider	Carter Clark	Maksim Schlef & Walter Schlef
		<b>Christmas Eve Acolytes</b>	TBD	<b>Christmas @ 9am Acolytes</b>	Olivia Travis & Joel Ada



# SUNDAY FUNNIES





- MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE**  
Wednesday, December 2 at 7 pm
- MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE, "O ANTIPHONS"**  
Wednesday, December 9 at 7 pm
- SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS**  
Wednesday, December 16 at 6:30 pm
- CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**  
Thursday, December 24, Service Times to TBD
- CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE**  
Friday, December 25, 9 am
- NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE**  
Thursday, December 31, 6 pm

During the winter season, please take note of the following guidelines in the event of closings due to weather: **Check with the church office.** If church or activities are cancelled, every attempt will be made to leave that message on the church answering machine. **Always check the church website at [www.bslcks.org](http://www.bslcks.org).** This is probably the best resource. *Please keep in mind that our driveway sometimes becomes very dangerous in snow and ice.*



## ATTENDANCE

Date	Attendance
11/1/20	340
11/8/20	345
11/15/20	312
11/22/20	322



The Lutheran Hour® can be heard on the local radio stations below. It can also be heard any time on the Internet at [www.lutheranhour.org](http://www.lutheranhour.org). Audio daily devotions can also be downloaded to provide a refreshing meditation on God's Word.

Broadcast Area	Station	Sunday Broadcast Time
Kansas City Metro	710 AM – KCMO	8:00 am
	580 AM – WIBW	7:30 am
Topeka	89.5 FM KAWZ	9:00 am



### Church Office Hours

**Monday-Thursday**  
8 am to 4 pm  
**Friday**  
8 am to 12 pm

**Joel S. Schultz**  
Senior Pastor  
[pastorschultz@bslcks.org](mailto:pastorschultz@bslcks.org)

**Michael H. Ada**  
Associate Pastor  
[pastorada@bslcks.org](mailto:pastorada@bslcks.org)

**Luke Elowsky**  
Vicar  
[elowskyl@csf.edu](mailto:elowskyl@csf.edu)



**Sunday Worship**  
8 am, 10:45 am,  
& 6 pm  
**Sunday Education Hour**  
9:30 am

### Preschool Office Hours

**Monday — Friday**  
8:30 am to 4:00 pm  
(913) 780-6889

**Amy Schultz**



*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.

