

Pastor Appreciation Month

OCTOBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Ushers 6th—S. Loy, Z. Carey, D. Vetter 13th & 20th—E. Hohnstein, B. Kramp, C. Jannsen 27th—R. Foreman, T. Young	Acolytes 6th—Lady Catherine Adams 13th—Pippa Marie Adams 20—Jack Wedin 27th—Miles Lindstrom	1 10:00am—Women's Bible Study 6:30pm—Elder's Mtg. 7:00pm—Trustees Mtg.	2	3	4 Pastor Off Office Closed	5
6 9:30am—D.S. III 10:45am—Adult Bible Study & Children's Sunday School	7 6:30pm—Confirmation	8 10:00am—Women's Bible Study	9 12:00pm—Senior Saints	10	11 Pastor Off Office Closed	12 8:00am—Men's Bible Study 9:00am—LWML Rainier Zone Rally @ Good Shepherd Happy Birthday Pastor!
13 9:30am—D.S. III 10:45am—Adult Bible Study & Children's Sunday School	14 Columbus Day 6:30pm—Confirmation	15 10:00am—Women's Bible Study	16 7:00pm—Council Meeting Pastor out of Office at Conference	17	18 Pastor Off Office Closed	19
20 9:30am—D.S. III 10:45am—Adult Bible Study & Children's Sunday School Pumkin Pic Fest	21 6:30pm—Confirmation	22 10:00am—Women's Bible Study	23	24 9:30am—Sewing 6:30pm—Stewardship Meeting	25 Pastor Off Office Closed	26
27 Reformation Sunday 9:30am—D.S. III 10:45am—Bible Study & Children's Sunday School Voter's Meeting	28 6:30pm—Confirmation	29	30	31	Flowers 6th—Anderson 13th—Waetzig 20th—Lund 27th—Hohnstein	Fellowship 6th—Whittig 13th—Burslie 20th—Pumpkin Pie Fest 27th—Stewardship Board



Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
2306 Milton Way
Milton, WA 98354
Office: 253.922.6977
Fax: 253.922.6977
www.mybslc.com
Rev. Sam Schuldheisz
sschuldheisz@mybslc.com
253.218.4916 (office)
Kathy Heddlesten
Preschool Director
preschool@mybslc.com
253.218.4918
Beth Boyd
Office Manager
bboyd@mybsl.com
253.922.6977
Church Office Hours
Monday—Thursday
8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

In this issue:

- Message from the Pastor 1
- Message from the Pastor cont'd, 2
- Message from the Pastor cont'd, LCMS Stewardship 3
- LCMS Stewardship, Hurricane Helene 4
- Reformation History 5
- Preschool News, Birthdays & Anniversaries 6
- Upcoming Events 7
- Calendar 8

The Messenger



Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church and
Preschool

October 2024—Volume 18, Issue 10

“Theology by Zoology” by Pastor Schuldheisz

Just about every morning our family cat, Tillamook, greets me as I walk into the living room. With a stretch of his hind legs and a little yawn (it's a hard knock life being a cat), with a meow and a head rub on the ankle he proceeds to tell me a story. And he will continue telling me that story over and over again if I haven't gotten the hint by the time I reach the kitchen to pour myself a glass of water. With a persistent purring and a little more meowing, Tillamook is telling me the sad story of his empty food dish. Sometimes it's not hard to tell what animals are communicating to us.

And yet, if you're like me, at some point you've probably wondered what it would be like if our favorite animals or beloved family pets could actually talk with us. What would they say? How would they greet us when we come home or when we fill their food dish with their favorite flaked salmon? If animals could talk, what stories would they tell?

Maybe this is one of the reasons I've always loved books like *Wind in the Willows* or C.S. Lewis's *The Chronicles of Narnia*, where that magical, imaginative world is full of talking animals. Quite often in our favorite stories, animals are more than background decorations or an afterthought; they're main characters who help tell the story.

In *The Magician's Nephew*, C.S. Lewis takes his characters and readers back to the very foundation of Narnia. Aslan walks about the empty void of the land singing creation into existence. It's lyrical life. Aslan sang it and it happened. Narnia blossoms and sprouts and shines into existence by this majestic music pouring out of the Lion's mouth. Eventually Aslan gathered a number of animals around him and

gave them a particularly unique and sacred gift in Narnia: the gift of speech. And with this gift Aslan gave a benediction: “Narnia, Narnia, Narnia, awake. Love. Think. Speak. Be walking trees. Be talking beasts. Be divine waters.”

Places like Narnia and Hogwarts aren't, however, the only places where you can find fantastic beasts. In the story of Scripture, from Genesis to Revelation, there are animals around every corner. Scripture's story of salvation is also a wildlife safari through God's creation. There's a whole biblical bestiary to be found within the story of the Scriptures. The animals of the bible may not always speak with human words, as Balaam's famous donkey did in Numbers 22. And yet, more often than not, the animals of the bible have a story to tell. If these animals could talk, what would they say? What stories would they tell us? If the heavens above declare the handiwork of God, what do all the creeping things and beasts of the earth have to declare about our Lord the Creator and Redeemer? Let's do a little theology by zoology and find out.

No surprise, our biblical animal adventure begins in Genesis. After the Lord God had formed every beast of the field and bird of the air they are brought before Adam and named. And at least for a while everything was good. More than good; God declared it all very good. God the Creator living in harmony and peace with his creatures. And man and woman living in harmony with and care of creation and God's creatures he had placed under their stewardship. But we know that the Edenic paradise of Genesis 1 and 2 quickly, and tragically, moves on to Genesis 3, where Satan takes the form of a serpent. Soon temptation gives way to desire. Desire gives way to pride. Pride gives way to sin.

And sin gives way to death. And yet, in the midst of the fallout and curse of Genesis 3 there is good news. There is an animal that has a better word than the deceitful half-truths uttered by that forked tongue liar.

We're not told what kind of animal this was. But we do know this animal gave its life and shed its blood to cover the guilt and shame and nakedness of Adam and Eve. "And the Lord God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them." Genesis 3:21. Whatever animal God used to clothe Adam and Eve, this creature foretells the story of the time when the Creator himself would take on human flesh to cover us by his innocent death and blood, and once again God clothes the guilty in the innocence of another. The first sacrifice in creation points to the sacrifice of salvation where you are clothed in Christ.

The next animal in our safari of salvation is found in Genesis 8. After forty days and forty nights of rain and the raging deluge. After spending 150 days Noah and his floating zoo came to rest on the mountains. First, Noah sent out a raven who went to and fro about the earth until the waters dried up on the earth. Next, Noah sent out a dove, but the dove returned. Noah waited another seven days and sent out the dove again. And this time, she returned with a freshly plucked olive leaf in her beak. What a story she could have told Noah. And yet, the leaf in her beak spoke for her louder than words ever could. The flood waters receded. The raging torrent had subsided. A new creation awaited. The dove spoke a word of peace to Noah and his family, but there was more than an olive leaf in her beak. It was the sign of a promise. A downpayment of a new creation that was yet to come, not in Noah, but ultimately in Jesus the true man of rest who would come one day and finish the job of saving creation once and for all.

No trek through the animal tales of the Bible would be complete without taking in the sights at the Seaworld of the Scriptures where the reluctant prophet Jonah found himself not inside just inside the largest fish bowl of the sea, but inside the belly of a great fish itself. Jonah chapter 2 features God's aquatic attraction where after running from God's call to go to Nineveh, after boarding a ship in the opposite direction, and trying to sleep the journey away, God sends a storm and tosses Jonah overboard into the sea and into the belly of a great fish. There he laments and confesses and prays, and finally the same fish that God sent to swallow up the prophet spits him back out again on the beach three days later. Ironically, the fish hears and heeds God's word better than his own prophet does. What a story that fish would tell its school as it swam back into the deep. "You guys are never going to believe what happened!" And unlike our grandpa's fish stories, this one's true. If the great fish could talk his gills and mouth would bubble forth the good news that although this story is amazing there is someone greater than Jonah. Jonah's God. in the flesh. The God who sent the fish to swallow up Jonah came to swallow up death forever. He cast himself onto the nets of the cross. He threw himself overboard into the abyss of the grave. He spent three days and three nights in the belly of the earth. But just like the fish couldn't stomach Jonah for more than three days, so too, Death and the Grave couldn't hold the Lord of life in any longer. The tomb spat him out in a glorious resurrection.

As our nature walk through the fauna of Scripture continues, the Psalms remind us that God created the birds of the air for their nests, the high mountains for the wild goats, the rocks of refuge for the badgers, the lion who hunts by night and sleeps by day, and the leviathan who plays in the depths of the sea (Psalm 104). These all look to their Creator to give them their food in due season. And if they could all speak, they'd tell you the same story - the story our ears are so often deaf to hear. God creates, cares, provides, and he does so without fail.

"These all look to you,
to give them their food in due season
When you give it to them, they gather it up;
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things." (Psalm 104:27-28)

God's creatures great and small tell us the same story when we come to the New Testament as well.

Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? **26** Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? (Matthew 6:25-26)

If we could translate the song of the sparrows and the melodies of the meadowlarks and the chirping of the chickadees, they would not only sing the praises of him who feeds the ravens when they call, but their morning and evening psalms echoing through the trees fill our ears with another chorus of good news. As beautiful, artistic, and carefully crafted as the birds - and all God's creatures are - you are of more value than the birds. What story would the song birds sing into our ears? Perhaps something like this. How loved are you by our Creator? So much so that he did not take on the speckled feathers and colorful plumage of peacocks, cardinals, or the eagle, but he became man for you. How much does your Creator care for you? Let him count the ways, not on his pinions and tailfeathers, but his fingers and toes which were stretched out on the cross for you. They chirp and chime a song of salvation: our Creator is also your Redeemer.

And when our Redeemer, the one who upholds all creation with his word, entered into Jerusalem, what was it that bore the King as he marched his way to the throne of the cross? Not a chariot. Not a princely litter. Not a mighty machine of war. Who else could possibly carry the King, the Creator, and the soon to



Volunteers are Invited to Hop on a Meal Train

Two newer BSLC families will be welcoming babies into their family in the coming months. The Fellowship Board is coordinating a Meal Train to lend a helping hand to these Mommas. If you are interested in helping, please sign up on the sheet posted by the water fountain or call Bonnie Hartman (618) 973-5649. Meals could be fresh, frozen or a gift card to a nearby restaurant for takeout. Dates for meals won't be known until closer to their delivery times. Bonnie will call Volunteers to coordinate specific meal dates when that time comes! Thanks in advance for helping our new friends!

Zane and Bre Carey Baby Eleanor is due November 12
744 Courage Ct. (No food allergies, prefer no mushrooms)
Port Orchard, WA 98366

Kevin and Valerie Roemer and Lena (5 yrs.) and Emerson (3 yrs.)
617 122nd Ave. Ct. E (No food allergies, enjoy any/everything)
Edgewood, WA 98372

Note: The Roemer's are expecting twin boys due in January.
However, it is likely Valerie will have activity restrictions for a
time (November, December???) prior to a planned delivery; most
likely in December.

Men's Bible Study Saturday, October
12th, 8am—Study on Proverbs

Voter's Meeting
October 27th

After Bible Study and Sunday School

Pumpkin Pie Fest
OCTOBER 20TH

**Any and all pumpkin desserts are
welcome, so be creative. If you plan
on contributing something tasty,
don't forget to jot your name down
on the sign-up sheet!**



Women's Bible Study
Join us on Tuesdays at 10:00
in the conference room



Fall Peanut Butter Drive

While Peanut Butter isn't specifically mentioned in the Bible, it clearly falls into Luther's small catechism explanation of what is meant by "Give us this day our daily bread."



When you talk to food bank operators, Peanut Butter is one of their most sought items.

As mentioned in church, your Stewardship Team will sponsor a Peanut Butter Drive through the month of October

There are bins in the Narthex and in the Office area, and we ask you to join with us to remember those more needy than we are. All the food gathered each week will be taken to the Edgewood Nourish Food Bank as soon as possible.

Blessings,

Preschool News by Kathy Heddlesten

The first month of preschool is rapidly coming to an end, and I think it's safe to say we've all settled comfortably into our new routines. It can be a bit of a challenge for the children at the beginning of a new school year, especially for those with no prior preschool experience. They're all doing surprisingly well, and seem genuinely happy to be here, which is a testament to our wonderful teachers and assistants.

I want to thank those of you who took a name from the prayer partner board this year. While a couple of our students are church members, some of the others have no church affiliation listed, so your prayers are important. To have them choose to place their children with us instead of a different preschool is truly a blessing, and it gives us the opportunity to teach them all about God, His son Jesus, and the gift of salvation.

The children have been meeting with Pastor Schuldheisz weekly for "God's House". They really enjoy this time and interaction with Pastor in the Sanctuary, where he introduces their Bible story for the week, and is teaching them the Lord's Prayer and the Apostle's Creed.

We had our first library day in mid-September. The children love coming to our little in-house library to check out a book bag for the week to share with their families. We have a lot of books to choose from, but I'm relatively certain that the book bag they choose has more to do with the little stuffed animal in each bag, than with the books themselves.

October is fire safety month. We'll be having our first fire, earthquake and safety drills. The Pierce County Fire Department is on the calendar to come visit us again this year, barring any emergency call-outs that morning. The kids get very excited watching and waiting for the fire engine to pull into the parking lot. The firefighters do a very nice presentation that includes some safety tips, and what to do, and not to do, in a fire emergency. They explain all the different items they have to wear to be safe, and show them what they look like dressed in full gear, including face mask and oxygen. Weather permitting, we'll go outside to see the fire truck and all the equipment up close

o wrap up the month, we'll be setting aside our regular curriculum for a day to have some Fall fun. The children will be able to wear their Halloween costumes, and there will be games, cookie decorating, our own little pumpkin patch, and fun crafts. One of their favorite things is making pumpkin volcanos with Mrs. Waetzig.

Summer is quickly fading away, and as Fall steps in to take its place, there are already tinges of orange and yellow in the trees, and there's a crispness in the air that wasn't there yesterday. As you go about your busy lives, I hope you take a moment to pause, breathe in the fresh Fall air, look around you at all the breathtaking colors of Autumn, and just appreciate God's beautiful handiwork. Even in this troubled world, we have so much to be thankful for. God's richest blessings to you all.

October Birthdays

10/1 ~ Cheryl Diekmann

10/1 ~ Alyssa Kreg

10/2 ~ Richard Kittenger

10/4 ~ Susan Wolf

10/4 ~ Henry Davis

10/4 ~ Liam Davis

10/8 ~ Gary Roland

10/10 ~ Cora Last

10/10 ~ Steven Pelissier

10/12 ~ Jeffrey Lueck

10/12 ~ Rev. Sam Schuldheisz

10/14 ~ Amy Kreg

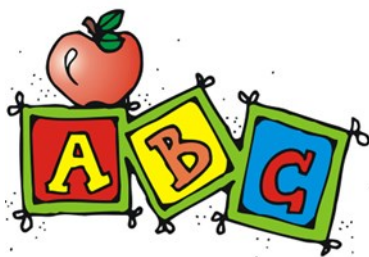
10/17 ~ Melissa Hibbard

10/24 ~ Henry Janssen

10/25 ~ Tobias House

10/27 ~ John Simonson

10/28 ~ Trina Foreman



October Anniversaries

10/4 ~ Bill & Kathi Boyer

10/5 ~ Paul & Susan Wolf

10/8 ~ Craig & Lynda Ramsey

10/20 ~ Andrew & Joanne Lund

10/22 ~ David Cohoe & Mandy Miller

10/26 ~ Ed & Vivian Hohnstein



be crucified one, but one of his own beloved creatures, a donkey.

"Say to the daughter of Zion,
'Behold, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'"

If that donkey could speak, like it's long lost relative in Numbers 22, what would this donkey have said? What story it tells us. I heard the Hosannas. I saw the palm branches. I bore the King. The Creator. The Redeemer. The Savior. If I am a beast of burden, how much more is he who bore the burdens of all creation and all humanity upon his weary shoulders. I carried the Son of David, the Son of God on his journey to make all things new.

Time and time again the story of the Scriptures is told, not only by apostles and prophets and patriarchs, but also birds, fish, and donkeys. God's creatures on four legs are some of the greatest storytellers of the Scriptures. For they tell us time and time again that the God who made all things in his work of creation also makes all things new by his work of redemption. That the Creator who declared creation into existence with a word also declares us righteous and holy and forgiven with that same life-giving, creative, living and active word. And that when we're given a preview of the new creation of God's eternal city there is no lamp or light needed for at the center of the new Jerusalem is the same Lord who's at the center of all the stories of Scripture: the Lord who is the Lion and the Lamb who takes away the sin of the world. "And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." (Revelation 21:5)

LCMS Stewardship

The LCMS has defined stewardship as "the free and joyous activity of God's family — the church — in managing life's resources for His purposes." Let's take a few moments to break this definition down, consider its implications and applications, and seek the Lord's blessing as His Holy Spirit leads us to faithfulness in this vocation for which He has created and redeemed us.

Here are a few of the elements of what stewardship means:

Stewardship is free. This means is it without compulsion. While Scripture speaks of the tithe, to turn it into law is to miss the point! Stewardship is not a system of taxation used by the church to survive and pay the bills. This does not mean that the steward is free from any responsibility to the church — the opposite is true. Stewards are created in the image of God to manage creation and redeemed and reconciled to God by the blood of Jesus to be stewards of the ministry of reconciliation in the Gospel. Thus to be anything less than faithful in all of life and life's resources for the sake of the Gospel and the benefit of our neighbor is sinful. Faithfulness is the standard. But we can't attain nor maintain it apart from the work of the Holy Spirit. Our stewardship is not our creation. It is the Holy Spirit at work in and through us. This is what makes it truly free. We are simply conduits of the work of the Spirit as we steward and support the work of the Gospel through the local congregation, district and Synod.

Stewardship is the work of the church. Stewardship is more than just a "me and Jesus" thing. There is a corporate nature to every aspect of stewardship in the local congregation. While each person and family are led by the Spirit to set aside what they give on the first day of the week, when it is done in the setting of the Divine Service the Body is working together for the sake of the Gospel. And this doesn't stop locally. Districts are supported by the faithfulness of many congregations. Synod is supported in faithfulness by the 35 districts. Like the human body, stewardship is so much more than the sum of its parts. When faithful stewards are banded together in faithfulness by the Holy Spirit, freedom and joy and stewardship is the result!

Stewardship is about God's purposes. This is what sets Christian stewardship apart from any other kind of stewardship. Worldly stewardship flows from fear. If we are not faithful in our stewardship of the air, water and land, fear says we are going to die! But the Christian steward comes from a totally different perspective. The Christian seeks to be faithful in every aspect of creation because it was created by God and redeemed in the blood of Jesus. Our stewardship flows not from fear but from faith. This faith is driven by the promise of God's purpose. This purpose was seen in Jesus' life, death and resurrection. God's purpose is that the church's faithful stewardship be an instrument of His purpose that all people come to the knowledge of the truth and be saved. Our stewardship of the Gospel is central and instrumental in this!

God made us for this stewardship. We failed. In Christ He has redeemed and restored us to this task. We don't deserve it in any way. But we are free. This freedom is the initiation of our joy. This joy is what leads us to be faithfully active as stewards of all that God entrusts to us for the sake of the Gospel and the benefit and salvation of our neighbor.

LCMS Stewardship



Lisa Kauffman, a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church, St. Petersburg, Fla., stands outside her home in Gulfport, Fla., on Oct. 1 after it sustained severe damage from Hurricane Helene. (LCMS/Erik M. Lunsford)

Since making landfall near Perry, Fla., as a Category 4 storm on Sept. 26, Hurricane Helene has left a devastating trail of death and destruction across the southeastern United States. The death toll is currently estimated at more than 100 people in six states.

The Rev. Dr. Ross Johnson, director of disaster response for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), said, “Initially, after Hurricane Helene passed, we believed the damage would be minimal. However, over the last 24 hours, I’ve received reports of significant damage in unexpected areas across the Southeast.

“Yesterday, I met via Zoom with the DDRCs [district disaster relief coordinators] from four districts, and it was determined that a substantial response and volunteer deployment will be necessary for Tampa, Florida, south-central Georgia and western North Carolina.”

Johnson reported that the Tampa and St. Petersburg areas on the Florida coast were hit with severe flooding. Our Savior Lutheran Church, St. Petersburg, has 12 families with over 10 feet of water in their homes. The entire surrounding community was also affected.

Meanwhile, south-central Georgia experienced significant tree damage, and western North Carolina — particularly Asheville — remains under water, with closed roads impeding transportation, and widespread power and cellular outages making communication difficult or impossible.

Later today, Johnson will leave for an initial assessment visit to all three states. The visit will take multiple days, after which he will formulate an initial response plan in cooperation with the LCMS Florida-Georgia and South-eastern Districts. In addition to meeting with the DDRCs, he has also been in touch with the LCMS Recognized Service Organizations Shepherd’s Heart Ministry and Forged by Fire, as well as with the LCMS Mid-South District, which is also standing by to assist.

More information will be shared as it becomes available. To make a gift to help bring Christ’s love and mercy to those affected by disasters, visit lcms.org/givenow/disaster. *Posted Sept. 30, 2024/Updated Oct. 1, 2024*



Lutheran Women in Mission Rainier Zone Fall Rally
Saturday, October 12, 2024
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
140 East 56th Street, Tacoma, WA
Doors Open 9 a.m.
(Registration \$10 - includes lunch)

Theme: Woven In Christ
So in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.
Romans 12:5



A REFORMATION TIMELINE



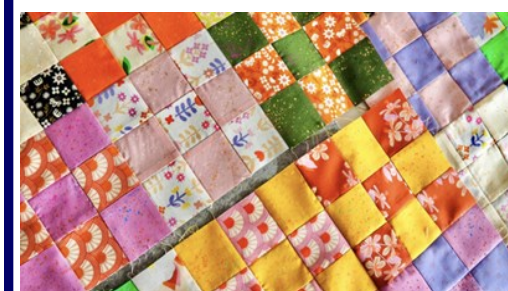
The world was changing. New scientific discoveries had opened pathways for understanding more about our complex universe. The ocean, once feared for its danger and depth, was tamed for travel and trade. Peasants and workers, laboring under harsh and relentless conditions, sought revolution. The bubonic plague had claimed the lives of about 75 million people from 1347 to 1351. It continued to reappear and panic European cities. Political alliances, long forged between pope and prince, fractured as power centers shifted. Gutenberg’s press (1455), the first to use movable type, transported ideas from one person to the next with swiftness and ease. As the medieval era collapsed into the modern, changes seemed everywhere and limitless.

Yet even during these changing times one thing remained constant: our God, who grants forgiveness and grace to His people through Jesus Christ. Despite advances and transformations in science and society, politics and publication, God was working. He gave hope and life by His Spirit through Word and Sacraments. He bestowed comfort and joy in trying and often perilous situations. In changing times, His promises through His Son did not change, nor will they ever. They will never be altered, nor revoked. His Word pronounces us righteous through faith in His Son, Jesus Christ. He alone is our Life and our Peace.

Significant people and events in the “Old World” as well as the “New” have been included for the years 1436 to 1600. Additional references include scientific discoveries, substantive works of art, and the arrivals of European explorers to the Americas. Items in bold indicate writings and events specifically relating to the Lutheran Confessions.



This timeline confirms what we know by experience: change will take place. But in changing times God’s Word reminds us that He is always faithful to His people. With hearty confidence and trust we can say with King David, “My times are in Your hands” (Psalm 31:15).



Thursday, October 24th at 9:30 — Join us for **SEWING!!!** We’re looking for help in putting quilts together. There are several things to do involving the construction, such as: cutting, pinning, piecing, sewing blocks, and putting the quilt together. There’s plenty of room to lay everything out on the tables in the kitchen social hall area. All the supplies are at the church. These quilts are donated to “Step by Step” and to “CareNet” All are welcome. Questions can be directed to LeEtta Luce.