Good News

Volume 63, Issue 5 May 2023



Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church 1947-2023

The Book of Revelation: A Story of Hope or a Tale of Horror? by Pr. Leah Lawson

The subject of Revelation has been popping up during the Women's Study Group and "The Wired Word." Many people struggle with this mysterious book of the Bible. It provokes a lot of questions. What is Revelation really about? What will happen when Jesus returns? Will there be another world war? Will people be "raptured" or "left behind?" "Will the world end?" So many questions, but sometimes, the answers aren't very helpful.

During my internship, I read a book by Barbara R. Rossing called *The Rapture Exposed: The Message of Hope in the Book of Revelation.* My internship supervisor, Pr. Susan Henry, suggested I read this book because I was confused about Revelation too. It's a fantastic book and it gave me a better understanding of what Revelation is truly about. Rossing is a New Testament professor at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago and she is an ordained pastor in the ELCA.

Over the summer, we are going to have the opportunity to read this book, talk about it, and maybe get some of our questions answered. I hope that this time together will shed a bit of light on this mysterious book which is often interpreted as real-life tale of horror with all kinds of terrible things that happen within its pages.

We will meet on Thursdays at 10 AM and 7 PM starting on June 1. Our last meeting will be on August 17. Feel free to join the class time that is most convenient for you. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex if you would like to participate . The church has funds available to cover the cost of the books. Please sign-up by May 21 so the books can be ordered before we have our first meeting. I hope that you will join me on this adventure through Revelation! I'm sure it will be an eye opening and hopeful experience.

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<u>Worship</u>

Sundays Mornings 9:30 AM with communion



Office Hours -Monday - Thursday, 9:00AM-12:00PM, 1:00-3:00PM (closed during the noon hour) Friday, 9:00AM- 12:00 PM

Staff:

Leah Lawson, Pastor Cheryl Hall, Office Manager Marsha Moller, Music Director

Council met on April 17 for a business meeting.

<u>Members Present:</u> J. Moller, B. Flatt, C. Kuehler, G. Rohloff, D. Wisker, D. Rosenthal, S. Berry, B. Berg, Pr. L. Lawson <u>Guest Present:</u> C. Hall <u>Members Absent:</u> J. Reinschmidt

New Business:

Pastor: We had a meaningful Lenten journey at Beautiful Savior this year! I want to thank everyone for all their help with the Soup & Sandwich suppers on Wednesdays and our beautiful Holden Evening Prayer services. A huge thank you to everyone who brought donations for our Lenten Giving Project which benefitted the clients of Refugee Services of Texas.

The topic of Revelation has come up a few times during The Wired Word and the Women's Study Group. I'm looking at doing a book study over the summer so we can have a more in depth look at Revelation and other topics associated with this mysterious and misunderstood book of the Bible. We will be reading and discussing *The Rapture Exposed: The Message of Hope in the Book of Revelation* by Barbara R. Rossing. I have read the book and it's excellent! I think it will be a great opportunity to look at Revelation through a lens of hope instead of fear and dread.

Education/Youth—. We have been busy! We not only had volunteers sign up for Children's Message and Children's Church, but we planned the Easter egg hunt. A group filled eggs on April 4th. Pastor Leah and Tanya Berry told the Easter story using resurrection eggs following the Easter service. Meanwhile, a group hid eggs. Thanks to all our volunteers, we had another successful Easter egg hunt. **Fellowship**—We have provided great fellowship opportunities during Wednesday nights with soup/ sandwich suppers and Holden Evening Services. We also continued providing Coffee and treats on Sunday mornings. We held a fantastic Easter Breakfast, and bid a few members farewell with receptions. We have continued live streaming church services and maintaining current info on our church website and facebook pages to reach our homebound members and non-members alike. We ordered some new BSLC branded pens to give out with visitor packages.

Activities/Events in past month: On April 9th, we had a fantastic Easter Breakfast with various church members bringing breakfast casseroles, pastries/breads, and fruit dishes! On February 19th, we held a reception to bid Marilyn Waugh farewell. The theme was Texas to the Bahamas as we had Banana Pudding to represent Texas, and Ann-Marie made a delicious rum cake for the Bahamas! On March 12th, we shared our thanks and goodbyes with Greg and Diane Hinders with a reception. Karen and Wally got a cake, and Judy brought mini-quiches for the occasion and we provided sherbet punch and the normal coffee as well.

Property—Organized 4 teams for 2023 mowing season. Thanks to all who fertilized and mowed the church and parsonage lawns before Easter. BSLC contracted new custodian, Kristin Johnson. She started cleaning the church the first of April.



<u> Church Council:</u>

Jerry Moller, Council President; Biff Flatt; VP, Blair Berg, Treasurer; Chelsea Kuehler, Secretary; Deanna Rosenthal, Education/Youth; Spencer Berry, Fellowship;/Evangelism; Johnny Reinschmidt, Property; Greg Rohloff, Stewardship/Social Concerns' Diane Wisker, Worship



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Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

Treasurer's Report

March of Fiscal Year 2023

Month

INCOME			
OFFERINGS		Actual	Budget
GENERL FUND ENVEL	OPE	14,403.42	18,750
GENERAL FUND LO	OSE	49.10	83.33
OTHER RECEIPTS			
BUILDING USE		368.98	166.67
MISCELLANEOUS		10.00	20.83
	Total Income	14,782.40	19,02083
EXPENSE		18,335.87	18,734.32

General Fund Offering and Attendance in April.

April 2 general fund: \$7593; Attendance:76

April 9 general fund: \$2,978; Attendance: 91

April 16 \$457; 49

Beautiful Savior recently received a card and two letters from **Lutheran World Relief**, thanking us for our generous gift that will help the people of Turkey as they recover from the devastating earthquake. Thank you for your generosity, support, and prayers during this difficult time.



The **Women's Study** meets Tuesday, May 23 at 10 am. The **Wired Word** meets on Thursdays, May 4, & 25 at 10 am and 7 pm, then breaks for the summer.

> KEENAGERS May 3 at Noon Potluck

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

For our members

Lorrayne Vogel

For our family members and friends



Hattie, Bruce L., Garry, Sandy, David, Aiden, Carla, Doug, Elizabeth, Dan, Michael H., Tim, Scott, Danny, Randy, John, Polly Jo, Alan and Sheila.

For our homebound members

Beverly Roush, Donna Nuss, Jon Edler, Keith & Arliss Johnson, Kenneth Huckabee, Betty Loomis, and Beatrice Kirkeeng

For those serving in the military - Sergeant Luke Butler

<u>Prayers of Thanks</u>—Dear Beautiful Saviors Members, Words cannot express how grateful I feel with all the Easter Blessings and get well wishes you all have given me. May God bless each one of you in a very special way.

Sincerely, Lorrayne Vogel

<u>Updates Encouraged</u>! If your prayers for comfort and healing have been answered, please contact the office to let us know. We will add your loved ones to the "Prayers of Thanks" section.

If you have placed someone on the prayer list and there has been a change, please keep the church office updated.

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05/01 Kendra Worley

Chancie Coberley

05/09 Lorrayne Vogel

05/13 Nancy Beatty

05/25 Karen Herpich

Kelsey Worley

05/30 Andrew Berg



If you need pastoral care of a visit or phone call, contact the church office at 359-9483 (Pastor Leah's office hours are 9 am to 4 pm Monday – Thursday).

To add prayer requests into the church's prayers in the weekly bulletin and/or the prayer chain call/email the church.

To join the prayer chain by email, contact the church office at beautifulsavioramarillo@gmail.com

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Sunday Scripture Readings

SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2023 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Acts 7:55-60 <u>The martyrdom of Stephen</u> Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 <u>Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)</u> 1 Peter 2:2-10 <u>God's people chosen to proclaim God's mighty</u> <u>acts</u> John 14:1-14 <u>Christ the way, truth, and life</u>

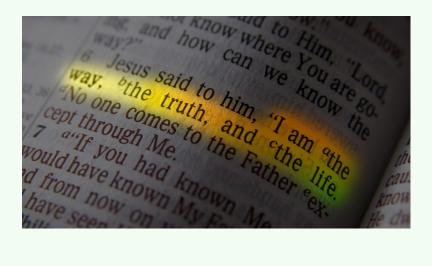
SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023 SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER <u>Acts 1:6-14</u> Jesus' companions at prayer after his departure <u>Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35</u> Sing to God, who rides upon the clouds. (Ps. 68:4) <u>1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11</u> <u>God will sustain and restore those who suffer</u> John 17:1-11

SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2023 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Acts 17:22-31 Paul's message to the Athenians Psalm 66:8-20 Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard. (Ps. 66:8) 1 Peter 3:13-22 The days of Noah, a sign of baptism John 14:15-21 Christ our advocate SUNDAY, MAY 28, 2023 DAY OF PENTECOST Acts 2:1-21 Filled with the Spirit to tell God's deeds Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. (Ps. 104:30) 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 Varieties of gifts from the same Spirit John 20:19-23 The Spirit poured out

If you are not sure how to pronounce some of the names in the readings, below is a link to help you and also a link to look up readings from the NRSV Bible.

https://biblespeak.org/

NRSV Bible Online: https://bible.oremus.org/



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Fellowship Fun

We have reserved 25 tickets for the game on Friday, June 2.

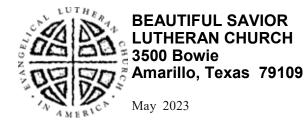
More information will be forthcoming in your Sunday Bulletins or check with Spencer Berry.





May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 10 am Food Pantry	4 10 am Wired Word	5	6
			12 pm KEENAGERS	7 pm Wired Word		
7 9:30 Worship 10:45 Choir	8	9	10 10 am Food Pantry	11	12	13
	7 pm Property					
14 9:30 Worship 10:45 Choir	15 7 pm Council	16	17 10 am Food Pantry	18	19	20
21 9:30 Worship 10:45 Choir	22	23 10am Women's Study	24 10 am Food Pantry	25 10 am Wired Word	26	27
				7 pm Wired Word		
28 PENTECOST 9:30 Worship 10:45 Choir	29	30	31 10 am Food Pantry		Restoration	



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BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH 3500 Bowie, Amarillo, Texas 79109

Office - (806) 359-9483 E-mail - <u>beautifulsavioramarillo@gmail.com</u> Web - www.beautifulsaviorlutheranamarillo.org

FYI - Our worship services are now live streamed on Beautiful Savior's Facebook page: <u>Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church-Amarillo</u> Pass it along.