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by The Rev. Leah R. Lawson

We Have a New Presiding Bishop!

The ELCA has a Churchwide Assembly every three years to discuss a variety of ministry and administrative tasks. The most recent churchwide assembly was held July 28 – August 2 in Phoenix. Thanks to technology, I was able to watch the assembly on YouTube. It always amazes me how this particular work of the church is accomplished. There are so many things to discuss and decisions that need to me made! I'm thankful to all those who felt a call to run and were elected to serve as a voting delegates in each of our 65 synods.

One of the main areas that piqued my interest was that the assembly would be electing a new presiding bishop! Bishop Elizabeth Eaton was heading into a new chapter; retirement! I have a feeling she is spending a lot of time with her husband, children, and grand-children. I haven't always seen eye to eye with Bishop Eaton, but I appreciate her years of service and hard work as our Presiding Bishop. I can't even imagine how difficult her job has been over the last several years; a global pandemic, the continued violence and instability in the Middle East, and navigating the divisive political land-scape in America.

Our new presiding bishop, the Rev. Yehiel Curry, was elected on July 30. His installation service was held on Saturday, October 4 at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. I ended up watching the 3 hour service on YouTube. (Here is a link to the service: https://youtu.be/uc7KzC2mPto). It may have been a very long service, but it was amazing! As I watched and listened, I thought a lot about that Pentecost Day so long ago when people from different places gathered together and were able to speak and understand all the different languages. The installation service had a variety of elements; different styles of music, different languages were spoken, different Christian denominations were represented, and different religions were represented as well. It was a glimpse in what the Kingdom of God looks like. It was beautiful and inspirational!

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Worship

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

FINANCIAL NEWS

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

Treasurer's ReportSeptember Fiscal Year 2025

Month

INCOME

<u>OFFERINGS</u>	Actual	Budget
GENERL FUND ENVELOPE	16,956.11	19,333.33
GENERAL FUND LOOSE	255.00	83.33
OTHER RECEIPTS		
BUILDING USE	640.00	458.33
MISCELLANEOUS	25.00	20.83

Total Income 17,876.11 19,895.82

EXPENSE

Total Expense 15,257.52

General Fund Offering and Attendance

October 5

general fund: 6885 attendance: 57

October 12

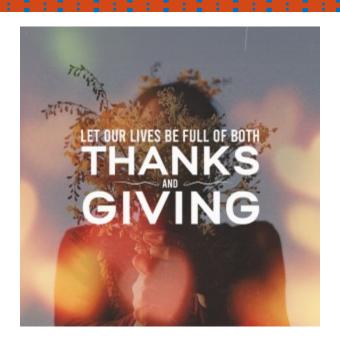
general fund: \$3050; attendance: 949

October 19

general fund: \$6729; attendance: 75

October 26

general fund: \$1925; attendance: 65



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Council met on October 20 for a business meeting.

Attendance:

Council Members: Spencer Berry, Pr. Leah, Jeff Worley, Nancy Conley, Gene Reneau, Blair Berg,

Deanna Rosenthal

Office Manager: Cheryl Hall

Council Members Absent: Ann-Marie Shadduck; Mark Newman, Linda Allen,

Old Business

- Gene Reneau gave the council an estimate for lighting upgrades. He also noted that the property still
 has trees to be either taken out or trimmed.
- Council reviewed and finalized the 2026 budget draft and also the NTNL model constitution and will
 present the proposed budget and all NTNL recommended amendments and other changes for the
 church constitution to the congregation at the November meeting.

New Business

- Rachel Herpeche has been engaged for contract janitorial work at the church. If you see her, please welcome her.
- The office furniture is being refreshed with a new finish and new carpet will be installed in a few weeks
 or shortly after Christmas.
- Council set the November Congregational Meeting for Sunday, November 23, 2025 following the worship service.
- Pr. Leah will attend the NTNL Synod Rostered Minister/SAWL Retreat, Monday 10/27-Wednesday, 10/29 in Waco.
- Pastor Leah will take vacation time (3 days) from November 24-29.

Other

The Endowment Committee elected Jon Kuehler for a second term.

Church Council:

Spencer Berry, Council President; Jeff Worley; VP, Blair Berg, Treasurer; Nancy Conley, Secretary; Deanna Rosenthal, Education/Youth; Ann Marie Shadduck, Fellowship; Gene Reneau, Property; Mark Newman, Social Concerns, Linda Allen, Worship

Meetings & Misc. Calendar

- -- All Saints Sunday is on November 2.
- **-Keenagers** meet on Wednesday, Nov. 5 at noon for a pot-luck lunch.

Hosting: Gene Reneau, Sheryl Habeger

- **-The Women's Study Group** will meet on Tuesday, November 4 and 18 at 10 AM.
- **-The Wired Word** will meet on Thursdays, November 6, 13, and 20 at 10 AM & 7 PM.
- -- Council meets Monday, November 17 at 7 pm
- -We will have a **Service of Thanksgiving** on Sunday, November 23. The Advent Wreath will be set up after the Congregational Meeting that day.
- --Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 23 following worship.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

For our members

Audrey Holman, Sonia Sanchez, Rochelle Berg, Ann-Marie Shadduck

For our family members and friends

Elizabeth, Curtis & Barbara W., Erin, Allen & Rhonda, Deborah W., Aiden, Lana K., Steve, Nickie, Mark, Donnie, Cynthia, Don, Mike, Sharon, Brant, Holly, Wayne, Melissa, Rodger W., Monica, Judy L. and Mary L.

For our homebound members

Kenneth Huckabee, Beverly Roush, Donna Nuss, Jon Edler, and Beatrice Kirkeeng, Betty Loomis, Bill Tietgens

<u>For those serving in the military</u> - Sergeant Luke Butler, Major Erik Lawson

<u>For our country</u> – The victims of violence and all those who grieve.

2025 NT-NL Prayer Partners

We invite individuals and congregations to join us in prayer for our congregations, leaders, and partners in mission.

Pray for the sustaining work of the Mission Endowment Fund (MEF)

Faith, Fort Worth, Good Shepherd, The Colony

The Bullock Family and the people of First Lutheran Church in Longview

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11/06 Leah Lawson 11/10 Paul Jones 11/22 Beverly Roush 11/23 D'Ann Berry 11/24 Jerry Moller 11/27 Gene Reneau





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

Sunday Scripture Readings

.Sunday, November 2, 2025 First Reading: Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

The book of Daniel was written in the second century BCE, when the Syrian king Antiochus Epiphanes was severely persecuting the Jews. Daniel's vision of the four beasts proclaims that human kings will come and go, but the kingdom will ultimately belong to God and to God's people.

Psalm: Psalm 149

Sing the Lord's praise in the assembly of the faithful. (Ps. 149:1)

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:11-23

After giving thanks for the faith of the Ephesians, the writer of this letter prays that they might understand the wisdom, hope, and power of God that is embodied in Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Luke 6:20-31

In echoes of the prophet Isaiah and Mary's song of praise, Jesus reveals surprising things about who enjoys blessing and who endures woe. He invites his disciples to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders.

Sunday, November 9, 2025 First Reading: Job 19:23-27a

Job suffers the loss of children, wealth, and health. Accused by his companions of wrongdoing, he knows himself to be innocent. Here, in the midst of his suffering, Job clings to the radical hope that his vindicator, his redeemer, lives; and that one day he

Psalm: Psalm 17:1-9

Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me under the shadow of your wings. (Ps. 17:8)

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

This portion of the letter provides encouragement for the church at Thessalonica during a time of confusion and opposition, as some allowed their concern over Jesus' imminent return to divert them from the central teachings of the gospel.

Gospel: Luke 20:27-38

Some Sadducees, who do not believe in the resurrection of the dead, try to trap Jesus. They formulate the convoluted case of a serial widow who marries a succession of seven brothers. Jesus responds by teaching about God to whom all are alive and in whom all relationships are fulfilled.

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 NRSVUE Bible. https://biblespeak.org/
NRSVUE Bible Online: Bible Gateway.com

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Sunday, November 16, 2025

First Reading: Malachi 4:1-2a

Malachi, whose name means "my messenger," warns that "the day is coming." On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the "sun of righteousness" will shine on those who honor God.

Psalm: Psalm 98

In righteousness will the Lord judge the world. (Ps. 98:9)

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Some members of the Thessalonian community, because of their belief in the nearness of Christ's return, had ceased to work, living off the generosity of other members of the community.

Gospel: Luke 21:5-19

As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.

Sunday, November 23, 2025

A Service of Thanksgiving

First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalm: Psalm 100

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-9

Gospel: John 6:25-35

Sunday, November 30, 2025

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Psalm: Psalm 122

. I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house

of the Lord." (Ps. 122:1)

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.

Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.



Giving Thanks for All Things

It's easy to list the blessings in life: good health, family, a satisfying career, a comfortable home. We might even be thankful for things others take for granted such as freedom and clean drinking water, reliable transportation and food enough to eat. Then there are the little things, such as gardens, sunrises, pets and coffee.

But what about life's storms or unanswered prayers? Should we be thankful for these? Loss and hardship remind us of our dependence on God. He uses trials to draw us closer to him, to show us that He is our rock and refuge. In misfortune and grief, we discover God's comfort and strength. Should we not, then, be thankful for the storms, too?



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Before the churchwide assembly, I didn't know Bishop Curry. During the election process, I got a glimpse into who he is; a beloved child of God, who has a heart for God's people and the Church. He took a different path to become a pastor, a bishop, and now a presiding bishop and that's something to be celebrated! We hear a lot about the clergy shortage in the ELCA and in other mainline denominations. I'm hopeful with Bishop Curry's experience and leadership, that we will continue to find creative and innovative ways for those who have a call to ministry, to obtain the theological education and spiritual formation that they need in order to be what God has called them to be.

If you would like to read an article about the installation service, visit Living Lutheran website, https://www.livinglutheran.org/2025/10/answering-the-call. Also, you can learn more about Presiding Bishop Curry by visiting ELCA.org.

November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Thessalonia God in Chris giving, and h	1					
2 All Saints 9:30 Worship 10:30 -Fellowship -Choir	3	4 10 am Women's Study	FP 10-12 pm Noon- Keenagers	6 10 am & 7 pm Wired Word	7	8
9 9:30 Worship 10:30 -Fellowship -Choir	10	11	12 FP 10-12	13 10 am & 7 pm Wired Word	14	15
16 9:30 Worship 10:30 -Fellowship -Choir	17 7 pm Council	18 10 am Women's Study	19 FP 10-12	20 10 am & 7 pm Wired Word	21	22
23 9:30 Worship 10:30 Congregation meeting	24	25	26 FP 10-12	27 Thanksgiving	28	29
30 9:30 Worship 10:30 -Fellowship -Choir				TO THE	GIVE TH. LORD BEO RIGHTEOU Plain 7:17	CAUSE



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