

Beautiful Savior October 2020 Newsletter

Take Out the Trash!

This year in our monthly articles we are considering favorite verses from the Bible.

This month's favorite Bible verse is: **1 Peter 5:7**

"Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you."

If you were asked to write down your top-ten favorite places, it's hard to imagine a landfill making anybody's list. There's nothing pretty about a landfill. There's nothing attractive or inviting about a place where trash is piled high and deep. It's no fun to be at a landfill; all you can do is watch the pile get bigger. And you certainly wouldn't want to take home any souvenirs!

But in 1 Peter 5:7, God is inviting us (if it can be said this way) to treat him like a landfill. "Pile it up!" he says. "Keep it coming! I can take it! Cover me with it!"

What kind of trash is God asking us to cover him with? **Anxiety**. Worry about the future. Stress of the present. Burdens from the past. All the things that pile up and make life feel like an endless slog through a murky, mucky swamp. All the things that press hard and cause pain, on the inside and the outside.

God says, "Throw it all on me!" He wants to take away all those burdens. He wants to remove the guilt from the sins of the past. He wants to hold us up under the stress of the present. He wants to assure us about the future.

But, as ugly as it sounds, he does this by taking our burdens onto himself. In fact, he already has taken our burdens when Jesus Christ bore the sins of the whole world. He carried all of them when he died on the cross. He didn't drop anybody's burden of sin. He didn't leave anybody out so that now they're stuck carrying their own.

Do you know people who help others so much that they hardly have any time left for themselves? You can marvel at how much they give of themselves, how many burdens they carry for other people. But if you would ever ask them how they can possibly do so much to help others, the answer might come back so plainly, "I just love them."

God's attitude toward you is so full of love—so overflowing with love—that no matter how many of your burdens you pile on him, his love will still spill out for you through Jesus. So take out the trash! Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

**** The above article reprinted with permission from WELS Outreach resources***

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From the pen of the Pastor. "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me... Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." (John 14:1,27)

It is getting to the point that I don't like to listen to the news. There is so much unrest in the world with all the riots and killing – there is no respect for property or life. Then we have the pandemic that has affected all our lives and will be with us for a while. And since it is an election year, we have to add the politicians to the mix along with all their negative advertising and accusations. Makes you wonder where the world is headed. There are many people that are in despair – thinking the situation around us is hopeless. Without God, it is, but we thank God that we have his Word and his promises and his gift of faith.

Even though the world around us is in chaos Jesus assures us that we don't need to worry. He urges us to **"Trust in him"** and let him calm our troubled hearts. After all, he paid for our sins and brings us forgiveness through the faith in our hearts. With forgiveness we have a peace that the world can't give us. With forgiveness we experience our Savior's love and if we have our Savior's love, we can handle anything. So, stay close to God by staying close to his Word and the comfort and peace that comes to us through his precious promises.

Recent Membership changes. None in September.

Communion – Remember that communion is offered on the 2nd and 3rd Sunday of the month (10/11 and 10/18).

If you have not been able to attend services and would like communion, please call Pastor Welke to set up a time for private communion.

Women's Bible Study – Women's Bible Study will take place on Monday, October 19th at 9:00 AM. We will be studying the book of Micah. You can join in on the discussion or just listen and learn. No prior Bible knowledge needed. Come and join the study and discussion!

Women's Society Meeting – will meet on Thursday, 10/8/2020, at 7:00 pm. We will begin our meeting with a Bible Study on Daniel chapter 4. All the women of our congregation are invited to attend.

Highlights from the September Council Meeting – Finances are doing okay. We have some annual bills coming due in the 4th quarter. The Fellowship Hall floor has been repaired. It was suggested that a dehumidifier may help with the problem. Pastor brought one from home to see if this helps in the short term. The insurance premiums will be going up about 7% for the next year. The insurance company contacted us to see if we wanted to get quotes from other companies but we decided not to since our current company was so responsive in replacing our roof.

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Catechism Class – Classes are being held on Tuesday and Wednesday each week. We will take a break on 10/13 and 10/14 due to Pastor Welke attending the Fall Pastor's Conference in Rochester.

Trunk - or - Treat – This was an event we were hoping to have this year but the CDC recommendations have strongly recommended against Trunk or Treat and Trick or Treat type of events in general. We hope that 2021 will allow us to have events like this.

Sunday School Teachers Meeting – We will meet on Wednesday, 10/14/2020, at 7:00 pm.

Confirmation – Since we were not able to have Confirmation last May, Garrett Degen will be confirmed on Reformation Sunday, 11/1/2020.

Finances and Attendance. The average attendance for September was 43 compared to an average of 29 per Sunday in August. The average views of our online service are 79 per week in September. The finances for September are \$7735 against a budgeted need of 10,075 (4 weeks). If you are unable to attend, you can always send your church offerings to the church office at the address listed below.

The address for our church mail is: Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
PO Box 332
Austin, MN 55912.