

# Good News

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## PUBLICATION OF BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH 1947-2024

### Faith and Science

by The Rev. Leah R. Lawson

Earlier in July, I watched one of my favorite movies, *Independence Day*. This has become an Independence Day tradition for me since the movie takes place on July 2, 3, and 4. In this 1996 action blockbuster starring Will Smith, Bill Pullman, Jeff Goldblum, Vivica A. Fox, and so many others, is a doomsday nightmare of what happens when hostile aliens come to Earth and want to destroy humans so they can take all of our natural resources. Yes, it's a horrifying scenario, but this movie is incredible! It has it all; aliens, action, drama, comedy, romance, and a dog!

I also watched another movie about aliens, called *Contact* from 1997. This movie stars Jodie Foster, Matthew McConaughey, James Woods, and many others. In this movie, Jodie Foster's character, Dr. Ellie Arroway, is on the search for life out in the universe. She faces many challenges in her quest, but she keeps going and eventually, finds something or someone! On her journey, she meets author and theologian, Palmer Joss, played by Matthew McConaughey. He is a man of faith who attended seminary to become a Catholic Priest, but decided that the priesthood wasn't for him. "You could call me a man of the cloth, without the cloth," he says.

One of the things that have the wheels in my brain turning since watching this movie is the way faith and science are discussed in the storyline. There is definitely tension between the two. Some people find themselves on the pro faith side while others are on the pro science side. Not only do you see this tension in the film, but you also see it in the real world.

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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**

**Council met on July 17 for a church business meeting.**

**Members Present:** B. Flatt, S. Berry, C. Kuehler, B. Berg, J. Reinschmidt, G. Rohloff, D. Rosenthal, Pr. L. Lawson

**Members Absent:** AM. Shadduck, D. Wisker, N. Conley

**Others Present:** C. Hall

⇒ **The church budget both in, income/ expenses, is doing well.**

**New Business:**

- Summer Traveling Groups—C. Hall will continue using her discretion when it comes to the groups using our space and Pr. Leah will greet traveling groups when they arrive at the church for an overnight stay. Currently there are no scheduled stays. Requests for accommodations have likely ended for the year.
- John Forbis from Amarillo Children's Home (ACH) asked Pr. Lawson if they could use our gym to give the kids a break from playing in the direct sun. C. Hall suggested they use the gym during the day on Wednesdays and Sunday afternoons. Nothing has been settled on at this point.

*Continued from page one....*

I find myself somewhere in the middle of the faith and science debate. I believe that they coexist. Science helps me understand the beauty and glory of God's creation. Science helps me see how God works in all things, including medicine, technology, and engineering. Science doesn't hinder my faith. It has allowed it to grow.

I know that this topic may be considered controversial, but my goal is not to cause division in our faith community. I think it's important to talk about topics such as faith and science. We may agree to disagree and that's totally okay.

What are your thoughts on the faith and science debate? I would love to hear your thoughts on this fascinating subject!

By the way, I'm not sure if aliens exist or not. If they do exist, I hope they are friendly and beautiful creatures like in *Contact* versus the scary and horrific beings in *Independence Day*. ☐

P.S. - If you are interested in watching *Contact*, it's available for free with ads on YouTube. If you would like to watch *Independence Day*, you have to pay to watch in on YouTube but it's worth every penny, in my humble opinion.

**Church Council:**

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

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

## Treasurer's Report June Fiscal Year 2024

Month

### INCOME

#### OFFERINGS

	Actual	Budget
GENEERL FUND ENVELOPE	22,662.21	17,850.00
GENERAL FUND LOOSE	147.00	83.33
OTHER RECEIPTS		
BUILDING USE	932.00	166.67
MISCELLANEOUS	10.00	20.83

Total Income 23,752.01 18,121.33

#### EXPENSE

21,896.95 19,375.59

### General Fund Offering and Attendance

#### July 7

general fund: \$6,410; attendance:48

#### July 14

general fund: \$2768; attendance: 64

#### July 21

general fund:\$1572; Attendance: 48

#### July 28

general fund: \$3562; Attendance: 56



The **Women's Study Group** will meet Tuesdays, August 13 & 27 at 10 AM in The Fourth Day Room.

**KEENAGERS-** Meet for a pot-luck luncheon on Wednesday, August 7 at 12:00 pm. Hosts: Marjorie Spencer, Marian Cole, Evelyn Wells, Sherrill Pohl

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**For our members**

Audrey Holman, Rita De Mar

Please keep **Laurie Dale and her family** in your prayers upon the passing of Tommy Malone, her son-in-law's cousin.



**For our family members and friends**

Hattie, Bruce L., Sandy, David, Aiden, Carla, Doug, Elizabeth, Dan, Michael H., Tim, Scott, Danny, John, Dick, Jim, Tony, Billie Jo, Rudy N., Sharon, Rodger, the Mata Family, Tonya O, and Will J.

**For our homebound members**

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

**For those serving in the military** - Sergeant Luke Butler

**For our siblings in Christ in the NT-NL Synod and the ELCA**

Please keep the Sturm family and community of Trinity Lutheran, Sherman in your prayers upon the passing of Pr. Craig Sturm.

Pray for our Conference Deans and Assistant Deans

Kin-dom Community, Melissa; Bethel, Avoca; Lutheran Sunset Ministries

**Prayers of Thanks**

**Updates Encouraged!**

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



- 08/07 Kenneth Berry
- 08/15 Corinne Wright
- 08/21 Marsha Moller
- 08/25 Keith Rosenthal
- 08/21 Noah Sanchez
- Alex Sanchez



Harvests are beginning to ripen, and gardens are producing richly. God of growth, may the seeds you plant in me through worship bear abundant fruit.



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](mailto:beautifulsavioramarillo@gmail.com)



## SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 2024

First Reading: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

*A food crisis becomes a faith crisis for the Israelites in the wilderness. The hungry people forget God's saving work in the exodus, and they wish for the food they had in Egypt.*

Psalm: Psalm 78:23-29

*God rained down manna from heaven; so mortals ate the bread of angels. (Ps. 78:24, 25)*

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:1-16

*Christians share fundamental unity and diversity. Our unity consists in the one body, one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God.*

Gospel: John 6:24-35

*Many of the five thousand people Jesus fed in the wilderness continued to follow him throughout the countryside. Jesus challenges them to consider the real nature of their quest.*

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2024

First Reading: 1 Kings 19:4-8

*First Kings chapter 18 describes the contest between Elijah and the prophets of Baal.*

Psalm: Psalm 34:1-8

*Taste and see that the LORD is good. (Ps. 34:8)*

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:25—5:2

*Christians are called to be imitators of God. This does not mean Christians are perfect. Rather, the Spirit is at work in our lives so that our actions and attitudes genuinely reflect the love and forgiveness we have received through Christ and his death.*

Gospel: John 6:35, 41-51

*After feeding more than five thousand people in the wilderness, Jesus teaches them regarding the true significance of this remarkable sign.*

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/>

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 2024

First Reading: Proverbs 9:1-6

*Wisdom is portrayed as a woman who invites people to partake of her banquet. Just as ordinary food is necessary for physical life, Wisdom's food—insight and understanding—is necessary for fullness of life with God. Partaking of Wisdom's banquet is the way to life.*

Psalm: Psalm 34:9-14

*Those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good. (Ps. 34:10)*

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:15-20

*True wisdom integrates our new reality in Christ with our Christian fellowship and daily conduct. Because we are filled with the Spirit, Christians regularly rejoice together, give thanks to God for one another, and care for one another. In this way we revere our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Gospel: John 6:51-58

*In John's gospel, the feeding of the five thousand leads to extended teaching in which Jesus identifies himself as the true "bread of life." Finally, in these verses, he makes a connection that would not be understood until after his death, in light of the church's celebration of holy communion.*

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2024

First Reading: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

*In the Near East, covenant means "agreement" or "alliance." It describes relationships and is the primary word used to characterize the relationship between God and Israel.*

Psalm: Psalm 34:15-22

*The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous. (Ps. 34:15)*

Second Reading: Ephesians 6:10-20

*Like a general giving a rousing speech to troops before battle, this letter closes by calling on Christians to be equipped for spiritual warfare against evil. The full armor of God includes truth, righteousness, peace, faith, the gift*

Gospel: John 6:56-69

*The "hard saying" that offends Jesus' disciples is his claim that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. The followers who return to their old lives know something about how odd this sounds. Simon Peter, on the other hand, knows something about the scarcity of living, gracious words. He asks the most important question: "To whom shall we go?"*



Rusty Stevens, a ministry leader in Virginia, described trying to finish mowing the lawn before dinnertime. His 6-year-old son darted in front of him and grabbed the mower handle. But when Stevens stopped pushing, the mower soon stopped.

The busy dad fought the urge to tell his son to get out of his way and instead offered to help. Stevens began pushing again, leaning over and walking awkwardly to accommodate his eager assistant. Although the mowing commenced, it was slow-going and not as efficient as the solo effort.

That's when Stevens realized a ministry parallel: "This is the way my heavenly Father allows me to 'help' him build his kingdom!" The church leader pictured God busy "seeking, saving and transforming the lost, and there I was, with my weak hands 'helping.'"

Although God surely can tackle all the work of ministry and evangelism alone, he "chooses to stoop gracefully to allow me to co-labor with him," said Stevens. What a blessing and privilege that God lets us work alongside him!

## Following Christ

To have faith in Christ means, of course, trying to do all that he says. There would be no sense in saying you trusted a person if you would not take his advice. Thus, if you have really handed yourself over to [Christ], it must follow that you are trying to obey him.

But trying in a new way, a less worried way. Not doing these things in order to be saved, but because he has begun to save you already. Not hoping to get to heaven as a reward for your actions, but inevitably wanting to act in a certain way because a first faint gleam of heaven is already inside you.

—C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*



# August 2024

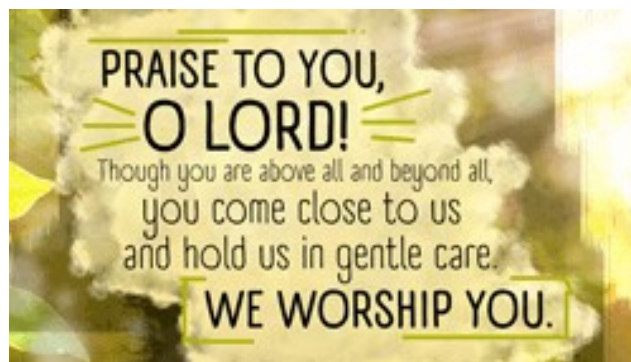
Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

Praise to you, O Lord! Though you are above all and beyond all, you come close to us and hold us in gentle care.				1	2	3
4 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship	5	6	7 10 am Food Pantry 12 pm KEENAGERS	8	9	10
11 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship	12	13 10 am Women's Study Group	14 10 am Food Pantry	15	16	17
18 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship	19 7 pm Council	20	21 10 am Food Pantry	22	23	24
25 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship	26	27 10 am Women's Study Group	28 10 am Food Pantry	29	30	31



**BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
3500 Bowie  
Amarillo, Texas 79109  
*August 2024*

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**FYI - Our worship services are now live streamed on Beautiful Savior's Facebook page: [Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church-Amarillo](#) Pass it along.**