



June 2020

Beautiful
Savior
Lutheran
Church
Newsletter

HOW CAN I REACH BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR?

Phone: 480-967-2660; Email: office@beautifulsaviortempe.org

or check us out on the WEB: www.beautifulsaviortempe.org

Mail or in person at: 1337 W. 11th St., Tempe, AZ 85281

Church offices are open Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

May 3rd-10th - services were streamed online; May 17th – 29, 24th – 24; 31st – 27

JUNE 2020 HAPPENINGS AT BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR:

Watch for update and/or announcements.

OTHER INFO:

Lutheran Ministry at ASU's new name & address to send donations to: Sola Ministries, P.O Box 1923, Chandler, AZ 85225

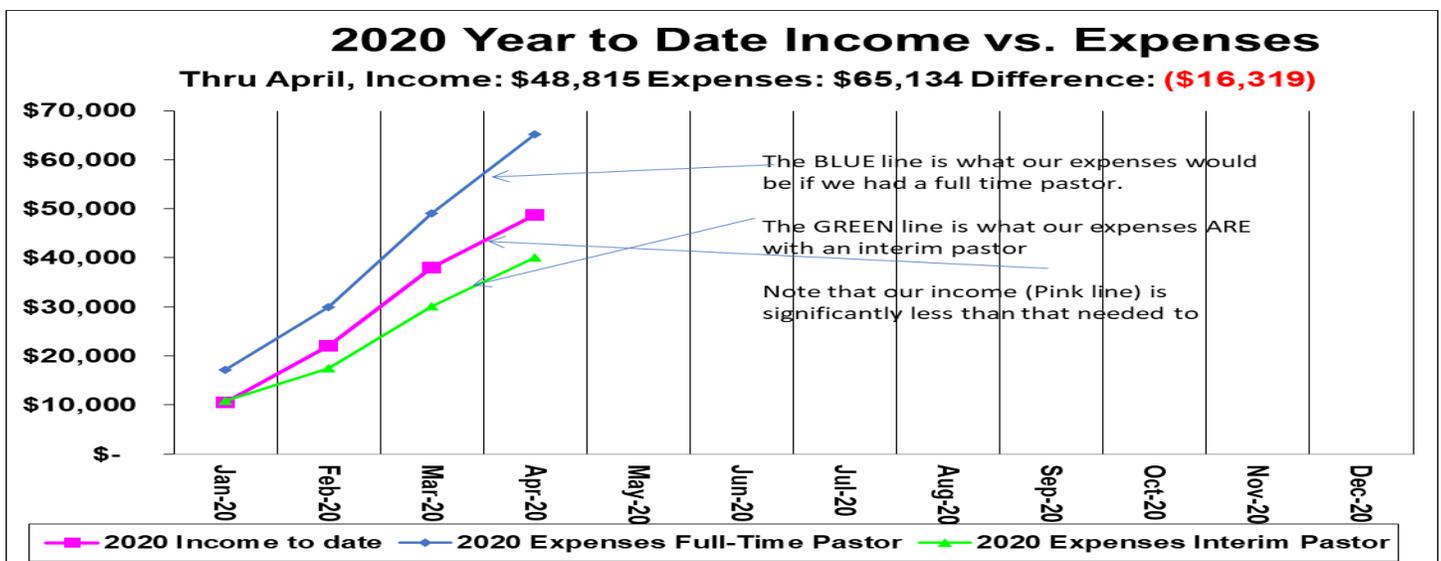
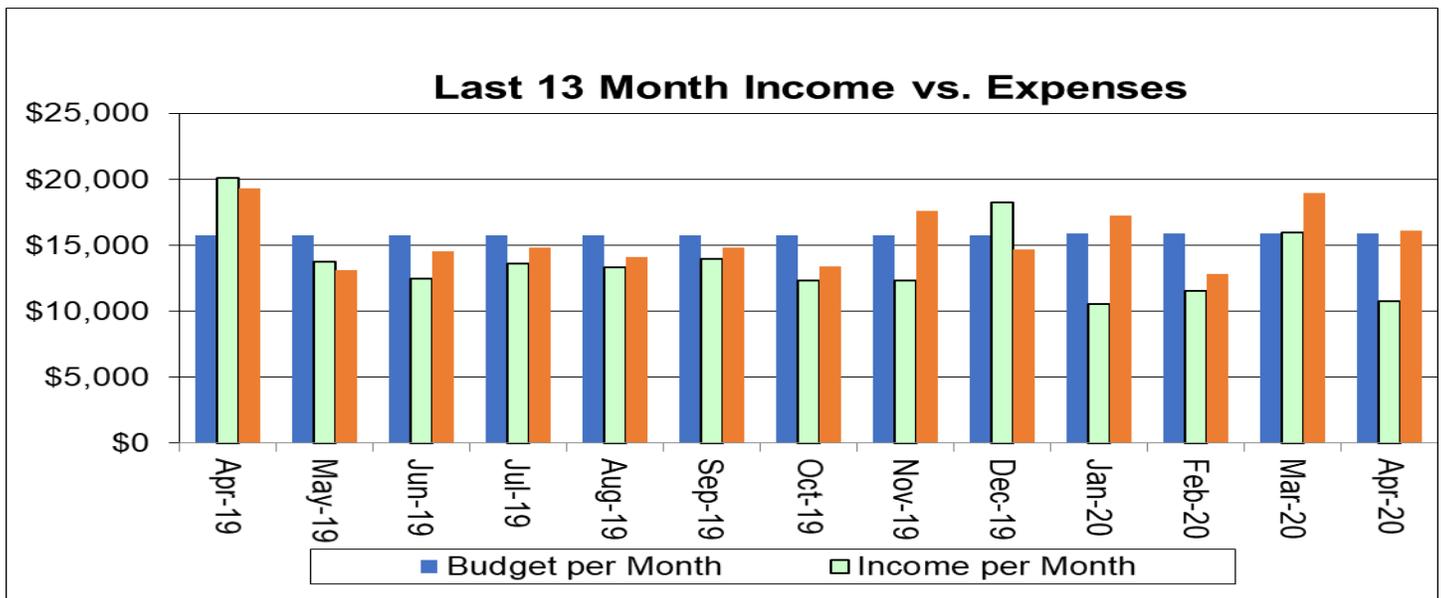
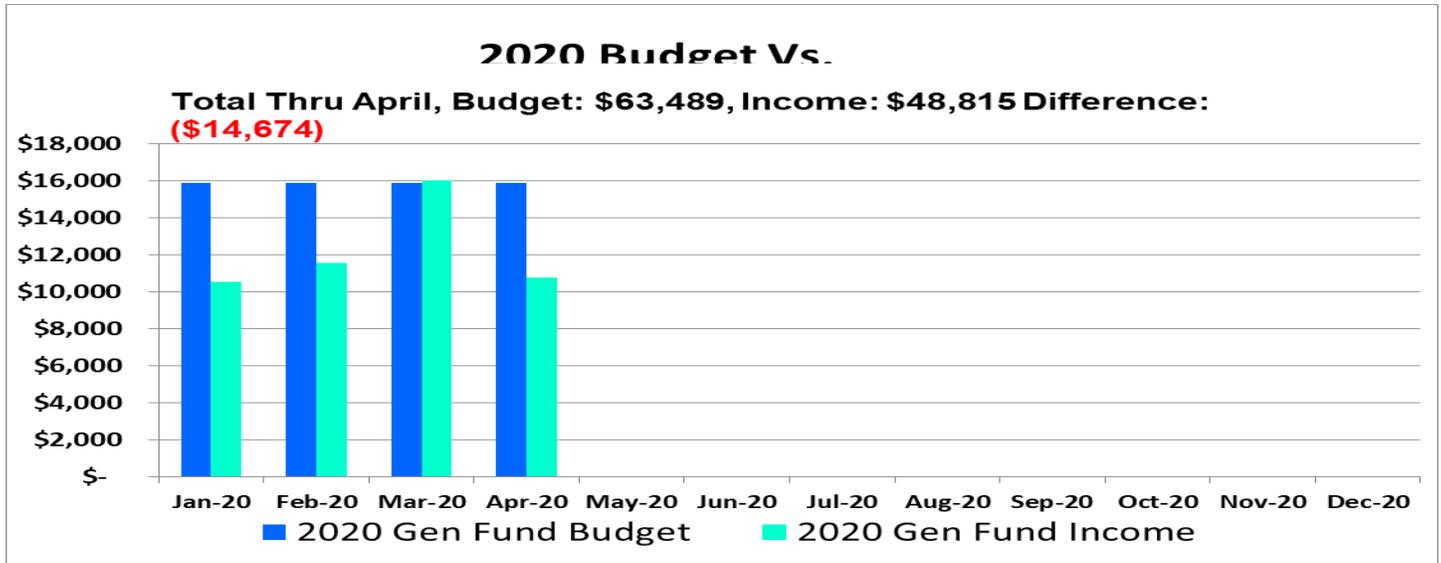
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MAY 2020 COUNCIL MEETING

The Council meeting was held May 19th, 2020 via telephone. Highlights of the meeting are:

- Treasurer reported we are meeting our obligations but have a deficit of \$14,000 for the year. We are setting aside the difference between Pastor Misch's and Pastor Spallek's salaries. Excluding this set-aside, we are positive by about \$11,000.
- Online giving has been arranged by Don Schumm using Easy Tithe. Donations can be designated for the General, Missions, and LWML funds. Five members have been using this giving option.
- Board of Stewardship is currently on hiatus.
- Board of Christian Education discussed the possibility of on line Bible study with Pastor Spallek. Sunday morning Bible study is on hold.
- A new camera has been purchased for the in-person worship services. Since the camera set up is off to the side of the sanctuary, the sound pickup is not as good but efforts are underway to improve that situation. Streaming services will continue for the foreseeable future.
- Trustees reported 90 volunteer hours
- Carlins sanitized the sanctuary. Hymn books and Bibles have been removed. Face masks are strongly encouraged during worship services.
- Ellen Brown is continuing to involve instrumentalists and soloists for the special music in the worship services.
- Creation of a BSLC music CD has been suggested. Ellen will research her professional connections for technical and copyright advice. Stay tuned!
- LWML will not meet in June or July.

If you are interested in receiving the Council minutes and report packets please contact Sandra Wardwell at 480-334-4176 or s.wardwell@asu.edu

BOARD OF FINANCE:



WOMEN IN MISSION (LWML):



WOMEN IN MISSION (LWML)

Our BSLC LWML society will not be meeting in June or July.

The District mini-convention will be posted on-line on June 6th beginning at 10 A.M. at www.psdlwml.org and will be available to watch at any time after that. There will be a sermonette, Bible Study, the President's Message and Election Results. Voting by email will be from noon June 1st to noon June 2nd. Gladys Meyer and Sandra Wardwell are Beautiful Savior's delegates.

If you have suggestions about how we can best serve our congregation and our neighborhood as well as support the mission of the LWML when our in-person activities resume in the fall, please let me know. We are still scheduled to host the Zone Rally on Oct. 17th.

If you are interested in LWML resources, such as receiving the Mustard Seeds Daily Devotions by email please visit the National LWML website at lwml.org or let me know.

In the meantime, continue in the Word and in prayer. I know you are all caring for family, friends, and neighbors. On-line worship services at Beautiful Savior will continue and will be posted on the Beautiful Savior Facebook page. A link to this page is on the Beautiful Savior website: <http://www.beautifulsaviortempe.org>. You can look at any of the past worship services that have been posted at any time. We are very blessed with congregational leaders making this possible!

Thank you for your support of LWML! Sandra Wardwell, Acting President

PRAYER CHAIN:

Beautiful Savior Church has an active prayer chain sponsored by LWML and the BSLC Stewardship Committee.

Men and women can be members of the Prayer Chain. To request to be a member of the Prayer Chain, and/or request a prayer, please call or email Gladys Meyer (480 897-2236, geneqlad@q.com) or the church office (480 967-2660, office@beautifulsaviortempe.org). Members will receive the prayer requests by email unless their preference is to receive them by telephone. A small email devotion is sent out to all prayer chain members every Monday.

Prayers can be praise or adoration (Psalm 136), thanksgiving (Psalm 118), request for God's help (Psalm 22) and intercession in which we pray for others (Psalm 82), (From Luther's Small Catechism).

God our Father hears the prayers of His children and answers in His own way and in His own time, "Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear," (Isaiah 65:24). PRAYER IS POWERFUL!

NEWS FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE:

No meeting in May.

Thank you, Bobbie, Dorothy, and Charlotte

PASTOR SPALLEK:

Christians Worship the God who is “Three in One”

As we conclude the Easter season and the festival half of the Church year, begun last December with the season of Advent, the last three Sundays we come together for worship are a series of festival days in which we celebrate our Savior’s Ascension, the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, and finally this coming Sunday, the Holy Trinity – Father, Son, and Spirit.. Although we refer to the last of these celebrations as the festival of the Holy Trinity, taken together, these special Sundays give praise to the Triune God we serve – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is the one time of the year when we focus our teaching very specifically on the God who identifies himself in Scripture as three persons, yet one divine being.

In our creeds that we confess every Sunday of the year, we clearly state our belief in the “three-in-one” God of scripture. This belief is easy to speak but impossible to comprehend. In fact, it is essentially not comprehensible. We simply can’t understand what it means to be a single essential being and yet at the same time three distinct persons, since we have no point of reference to relate this to. As human beings, each of us is one being in one unique person.

And yet, scripture clearly teaches this belief. It is true that the terms Trinity and Triune don’t appear in the Bible, but the names Father, Son, and Spirit are used to describe the three persons of the Godhead. Some might suggest that these are just different modes in which God appears, but this doesn’t match Jesus’ words where he clearly describes the Father and the Spirit as separate and distinct from himself as the Son. Others might suggest this implies three separate divine beings, maybe even with a hierarchy among them, but when scripture speaks of God, it speaks of Him in the singular.

So what are we to make of this? Is it reasonable to ask people to believe what is in essence unreasonable? Here’s where faith comes in. To Bible believing Christians, Holy Scripture is the source of what we believe. It is not a product of human wisdom, but God’s Word to us. That doesn’t mean we check our brains in at the door, but it does mean we put our human reason in a place below God’s wisdom. And here’s what God’s Word to us teaches about his identity.

We have a Holy and supreme Father who created us and provides for our daily needs. We have a Holy and supreme Son, who redeemed us from our sin and provides eternal life and salvation for all who believe. And we have a Holy and supreme Holy Spirit, who comforts us in our fear and empowers us to serve in his name. Paraphrasing the Athanasian Creed, “The Father is not the Son or the Spirit. The Son is not the Father or the Spirit. The Spirit is not the Father or the Son. And yet, there are not three Gods, but one divine essential being.”

What an incredible God we serve! One who we could never hope to comprehend, had He not come to us, (1) by taking on a human nature into His divinity in the person of Jesus Christ, and (2) by giving us in human language His Holy Word. Blessings on you as you serve He who is God Almighty.

Pastor Peter