

The Gospel Gazette

May 2018

St. John Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

290 7th Street
Idaho Falls, ID 83401

www.stjohnministries.net

Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday
9:00am-3:00pm

Phone: (208) 522-5650
office@stjohnministries.net

Pastor

Stephen Weems

St. John Officers

David Bush,
Vice – Chairman,
Board of Directors
Dave Van Haaften,
Chairman,
Board of Elders

Worship

9:30am - Sunday

Communion every
1st & 3rd Sunday

Contemporary Worship
Service generally held
every 2nd & 3rd Sunday

10:30am - Fellowship

10:45am -
Sunday School
& Bible Study

Wednesday Bible Study

9:30am

Sunday, April 22, 2018, is Good Shepherd Sunday. This daily devotional from Lutheran Hour Ministries is fitting, AND you can subscribe online at no cost to you! We recall Jesus' words in John 10:11, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." Enjoy! *Pastor Stephen*



Matthew 20:27-28 (NIV) - (Jesus said) "And whoever wants to be first must be your slave just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

In the Korean War, there was a young sergeant by the name of Gardolibov.

Sergeant Gardolibov had been caught up in the blood battle that was known as "Heartbreak Hill." During a lull in the shooting, a rescue team was sent out to aid the wounded. By the time the medics found him, the sergeant was dying, his hands paralyzed.

But death and paralyzed hands hadn't stopped the sergeant from fulfilling his duty.

In that moment when a normal person directs his thoughts and concerns to survival, the sergeant was still doing what he could to keep the messages going through. In the conflict, a crucial communication wire had been broken. Seeing the danger, Gardolibov had clenched the two broken pieces of wire ends between his teeth.

The medics were moved by his devotion. I imagine you are also touched by the sergeant who was faithful unto death.

As admirable as the sergeant's sense of duty was, it pales in comparison to the sacrifice of our Savior.

Scripture tells us of how Jesus' innocent blood was shed. It was shed not just to save a few comrades who might appreciate His gift. No, Jesus

died for people who hated and despised Him. He died for the very people who had put Him on the cross and made mockery of Him as He was dying.

It is quite possible that the sergeant knew, as he died, that his options were limited. He could hold those wires, or he could let them hang loose. No other possibility presented itself.

In contrast we have a Savior who went through His entire life fully aware that if humankind was to be saved, He would have to die. It was a crushing burden to carry. Even so, Jesus did just that. As John had plainly stated, He was the Lamb of God who would take away the world's sins by carrying them to the cross.

Now, it's quite possible that Sergeant Gardolibov was aware that family, friends, and those who lived after him would be proud that he had done the right thing. In contrast the Savior's omniscience told Him that many people in future generations would deny that He had ever existed – let alone made any kind of sacrificial satisfaction for humankind's sins.

In spite of all this disregard and disrespect from those He had come to save, Jesus remained at His post, and finally showed Himself to be faithful unto death. He continued on as a serving Slave for humanity, giving His life so there would be a covenant of peace between once-lost humanity and our forgiving God.

Paul understood Jesus' love and duty when he wrote to the church in Rome (and to us): "God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us"

(Romans 5:8, NIV)

THE PRAYER: *Lord, history is filled with soldiers who made great sacrifice for their comrades. I rejoice that in the battle against Satan, Jesus made sacrifices for me. Seeing His great sacrifice, may I also be willing to make sacrifices for others. This I pray in Jesus' Name. Amen.*

Daily Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries
By Pastor Ken Klaus, Speaker Emeritus of
The Lutheran Hour
lhm.org/dailydevotions

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Our monthly potluck luncheon is at noon on Tuesday, May 8th. If possible, we ask that you bring a dish to share. If you are coming from work, and it is difficult to bring a dish, just come share in fellowship with us! Everyone is welcome and encouraged to invite friends and family.

Game night is Friday the 18th beginning at 6:30pm. All ages are welcome.



**American
Red Cross**

Our next Blood Drive is on Wednesday, May 23 from 3:00-7:00.

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Jesus Christ ~ 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18
 God Bless, Sheila K. :)

Board of Directors Minutes - March 2018

(in order to allow time for minutes to be reviewed for accuracy, the minutes are published with a one-month delay.)

March 20, 2018

Call to order/Opening Prayer; Devotional; Approval of minutes from previous meeting

Committee Reports (Brief)

Adult Education; Primary Education; Human Care; Properties - Double sink in the kitchen does not have cold water and low water pressure; Toilet in Women's restroom upstairs needs to be looked at due to running continuously; The sinks in the men's restroom has low water pressure and will not shut off; Heating valves need to be looked at after the boiler is shut down this spring Elevator- does it need to be inspected and/or repaired?

Public Relations; Social Ministries - Easter Breakfast; Luncheon for voters meeting May 20, 2018

Youth and Family life; Stewardship; Outreach and Assimilation; Church Security

Forms will be sent to Cheryl for record keeping on who has received training

Pastor's Report - Roger H. shared a gratitude check with the church (\$800 money will be split \$300 with Kids USA & \$500 to go toward camp Perkins Scholarship); Possible adult membership class; Confirmation will start in the fall; LWML Convention in Pocatello April 27-29 Pastor will lead the opening worship; Best practices in ministry has lead to the possibility of St. John serving in a local elementary school; Carolyn P. wants to talk with Pastor about the possibility of a young child daycare at St. John.

Elder's Report - Member contacts; Shut-in and home bound contacts; Looking for new elders

Treasure's Report - Preliminary report contributions are meeting the church's financial needs:

Budget worksheets are being handed out to Committee Chairs to complete

Old Business - Parking lot lights-Three on the building are very bright and seem adequate; The other two will be addressed later in the year (Tabled); Janitorial contract renewal; Peeling paint in sanctuary; Mark Petersen said he would look into it as to why it happening to see if there is a leaking water issue.

New Business - Voter's meeting May 20, 2018; There is a need for a remodel of the men's restroom upstairs at some time.

Closing Prayer/Adjournment

(edited for space)



VBS will be held June 25-29, 2018.

St. John will once again partner with Camp Perkins to provide Vacation Bible School.

Please prayerfully consider helping with this vital ministry.

Perhaps consider using a day of vacation to help share the good news of the Gospel.

For many of the children who attend VBS this is their **only** exposure to God's word and the love of Jesus! ***Watch for volunteer sign up sheets coming soon!***

Board of Elders Minutes - April 2018

7:00 pm, April 9, 2018

Pastor Stephen led an opening devotion and prayer.

Carolyn P. explained her concept of a day-care as a ministry opportunity for St. John's congregation.

Chapel of the Pines – St. John will continue to participate in this ministry.

Regional Council for Christian Ministries – The RCCM meets on Tuesday, 4/17, Pastor plans to attend the meeting.

We discussed ministry among our members.

Pastor is working to resume the Membership class.

We discussed 2018-21 Elder nominations.

We agreed on the BOE budget requests for the May Congregational Meeting.

We discussed the Words from the Cross narration Pastor used for the Good Friday Service.

Next regular meeting: Monday, May 7, 2018, 7:00 pm.

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CAMP PERKINS

Lutheran Outdoor Ministries

2018 Camp Sessions

3-4 grade*	July 15-20
3-6 grade*	July 1-6
3-6 grade*	August 5-10
5-8 grade*	July 8-13
5-8 grade*	July 22-27
6-9 grade*	July 29-August 3
9-12 grade*	July 15-20

Cost:

Pricing by registration date
the earlier you register the more you save!

*Received online by midnight or
postmarked on or before:*

- ♦ April 16-May 31: \$335.00
- ♦ After May 31: \$345.00

*Please note: **Grade is based on grade entering next fall.** Youth campers will be grouped in cabins according to grades (grades 3 & 4 together, 5 & 6 together, etc.)

Please plan your Cabin Mate requests accordingly.



*Thank you to all who have been bringing in items for
"First Sunday Food Offering" Together, our congregation filled
the grocery cart twice in April!*

Suggested items for May:

Rice (1 & 2 pound packages). saltine crackers, macaroni & cheese, and feminine hygiene products.

***There is no preference to brand names of donated items.
Generic brands are welcome.

