

St. John Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

290 7th Street
Idaho Falls, Idaho
83401

www.stjohnministries.net

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs.
9:00 am-3:00 pm

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

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Pastor

Stephen Weems

St. John Officers

David Bush
Vice – Chairman,
Board of Directors

Dave Van Haften,
Chairman,
Board of Elders

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Worship

9:30 am - Sunday
(starting Sept 10th)

Communion every 1st & 3rd
Sunday

10:30am - Fellowship
11:00am - Sunday School
Bible Study

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Wednesday Bible Study

9:30 am

The
Gospel Gazette

September 2017

41-Day Prayer Challenge (with Tips!)

Matthew 15:21-28

Who's Your One?

Whose needs will you make your own and bring before Jesus, our Savior?



The Canaanite woman who pleaded unceasingly with Jesus to heal her daughter is an encouraging example of faith lived out. In the region of Tyre and Sidon the disciples expected to find no believers. The Canaanites came from a line of people God had labeled “wicked” when the Israelites were directed by him to take the Promised Land as their own, a gift from their Heavenly Father. Indeed the Canaanites practiced temple prostitution and child sacrifice to appease their gods who were no gods at all. These actions are abhorrent to God, and that was life *at the temple* where people gain a worldview and learn morals and ethics. We can image how far from God’s plan was life in their greater society.

But this woman had heard of Jesus and trusted that the one she called “Lord” (as did Jesus’ disciples) could most certainly heal her daughter. She knelt in worship before Jesus and was undeterred. Matthew’s account says, **“Jesus answered her, ‘O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.’ And her daughter was healed instantly.”**

This woman made her daughter’s need her very own, and she carried that need to the Savior.

She had a face-to-face discussion with Jesus. She asked fervently, and she listened carefully.

Isn’t that a great description of prayer? We are to speak fervently to God and to listen carefully as he speaks through his Word and as his Spirit moves in our hearts and minds.

Tips:

- Speak to Jesus about this story Matthew shares. Ask him to claim the one you pray for.
- Share with a trusted Christian the name of the person you are praying for and why. When we announce a commitment, we are more likely to follow through.
- Take a verse like 1 Peter 3:12, **“For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer,”** and pray it back to God. “Lord, you have declared me righteous in your sight because of my Savior. As He is risen and lives, hear my prayer for this person I care for. Bring this one you made into your kingdom by faith.”
- Place this person’s name on your calendar each day for the next 41 days, and PRAY a new prayer each day!
- Listen to how the Spirit moves in your heart and mind, and follow.

~Pastor Stephen

Board of Directors Minutes-August 2017

Approval of Previous Months Minutes

- **Pastor's Report :** Vacation August 23-27 (Mark P. will be covering church service)
- Adult Bible Class just finished Romans, Alan M. will be leading the next class
- New Member class – Tonya S. just finished
- Tonya S. Will be baptized member Sunday
- Next new member class being arranged with Matt H.
- Community Listening Opportunities feedback will be will be organized and shared soon
- Life celebration – Dorothy J.
- Sermon Mondays- at home (club house) without interruptions
- Baptisms & Confirmation
- Misc. – Hosted Circuit Pastors/Deacons
- Request for Aid Sunday: Policy is we do not handout cash, have a face to face visit and discussion
- PLI – Pastor Leadership Institute - for Pastor & Laurie Weems. Request for funds year 1.. \$1600, year 2.. \$1800, year 3... \$900 (leadership and development)
- Organizing a thank you barbeque for HK and neighborhood

Board of Elders Report:

- Care units have been divided up into 3 groups, however due to the large number of members it will be difficult to see everyone
- Many of the former Elders and deacons have agreed to help with Sunday services
- Retirement party for Calli at The Falls: Clubhouse (Snake River Landing) – Open house format from 5:30-7:30pm

Treasure's Report: July's contributions exceeded expenses by \$2043.54. Our contributions were \$1555.67 below our budgeted expectations but our expenses were also below our budgeted expectations by \$3,599.21

Old Issues: Need for Additional Board Members, Chair/Vice Chair; Treasure/ Assistant Treasurer; Member at Large

New Issues

- Allen E.- Handrailing needed for steps out front, safety issue. Where are the old ones? Suggested that we need two handrails, down the middle, as well as one on the angle. We need to take into consideration pallbearers carrying a casket. Board will discuss with Paul / Bob that the handrails need to be put in before winter and we need his assistance to find a contractor. Allen is willing to help with the project as needed.
 - Heating system- boiler is inspected every fall, what about the overall system? Matt H. usually schedules the fall inspection. BOE suggested that we find a church member to volunteer to be in charge of having the whole system be inspected.
 - Men's bathroom urinal out of service – Paul / Jeff
 - Haven fundraiser (December) - Jim & Ann W.
 - September 17, 2017 – installation for new and continuing board members
 - David B. will not be able to attend November board meeting
- Next meeting September 12, 2017. Dan V. in charge of Devotion *edited for space*

Starting September 10th



**NEW
SERVICE
TIME!**

9:30 AM

Board of Directors

Chairman	Vacancy
Vice-chairman	David B.
Secretary	Kellie P.
Treasurer	Melanie M.
Asst. Treasurer	Vacancy
Members at large	Dan V. & Bob B.

Board of Elders

Dave V. –Chairman of the Elders
 Todd M.
 Jeff P.

New Beginnings

As I contemplate on entering the new chapter my life, it is becoming more real to me that we are leaving all the people whom we have become so close too over the years. I am about to leave a job that I love and church members who become like a second family to me. I was blessed to be able to come back here for a second time and I never thought I would retire from here, but the Lord saw it differently. TRUST IN THE LORD, I remind myself daily, He has guided me in every step of my life and because He is faithful, He keeps up His side of the relationship, even when I don't ... How awesome is the faithfulness of our God!

I can't begin to tell you how this job has helped me grow spiritually. I always thought of my time here, not as just a job, but a ministry. In the last ten years, I have seen many baptisms, marriages, hospitalizations, and funerals. I have laughed, celebrated and cried a lot of tears with many of you. It was a life-changing time for you and I was blessed that you made me part of the process and walk with you through it. I have worshipped with you and communed with you. I have been tremendously blessed by working with gifted Pastors, who are strong, faithful men. They have showed me great kindness and patience. Lastly, THANK YOU doesn't seem adequate enough to the faithful group of volunteers, who have been so reliable and loyal to me throughout the years. You know who you are and **thank you** from the bottom of my heart, I love you all. Even though it will be hard to leave, I will have that peace and joy in my heart, that God guided me throughout this time and He will continue to guide this ordinary gal to be a blessing to others. Thank you Pastor Stephen and St. John for blessing my life. May the Lord bless you all richly and keep you in his care. ~Calli

Board of Elders Minutes-August 2017

Jim W. met with us to discuss making contact with non-attending members

Pastor's Report:

- Pastor Stephen will be on vacation in Yellowstone National Park August 23-27.
- The Sunday morning study of Romans is finishing.
- New Member class is meeting.
- Pastor's Community Listening went really nicely. He will organize the feedback for sharing.
- Pastor uses Mondays to focus on sermon preparation.
- Pastor will lead the joint Confirmation class this fall with one student from Hope Lutheran

We discussed the Shut-in & Homebound ministry.

Care Unit reassignments: Todd M. Care Units 1, 1b, & 2Dave V. Care Units 3 & 4.Jeff P. Care Units 5 & 6

We reviewed further Elder nominations.

Reminder: Cheryl V. begins as Office Manager August 14, working with Calli until she retires at the end of August.

Pastor is working to arrange a visit from Nichelle Dikema, a NW District missionary to Peru on November 5. We haven't had a mission emphasis for a long time.

Next regular meeting: September 11, 2017, 7:00 pm.

Barbecue Lunch with Construction Teams & Neighbors

Can you help serve?

Hey Everyone, we are trying to lock in a BBQ at lunch on Thursday, Sept. 7, honoring the road and alley construction teams that have been working on 7th Street and behind the church. I will be placing invite flyers on doorsteps of neighbors next week.

Can you sneak away from work and join in on the 7th? Great way to honor the teams and celebrate with neighbors. Let me know if you can help or if you would be willing to donate supplies. If you want some exercise join me in walking invites to the neighbors.

See sign-up sheets in the entryway today.

~Pastor Stephen





Human Care

- Please join us for our Potluck luncheon on Tuesday, Sept. 12 beginning at noon. It is a great opportunity to get to know each other better. If you are coming over your lunch hour, do not worry about bringing a dish, we just would love your company! This for everyone, bring your family and friends.
- The next Red Cross Blood drive will be on Tuesday, October 24th.
- If you have any excess garden items, please donate them to the shelters Soup Kitchen or Food Bank. Thank you to all those who donated to school supplies to FISH.

"For I am certain that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor present things nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:38-39

I hope you find comfort in those words. Thank-you and God Bless! Sheila Keefe

Women's Retreat October 13-15th



What's not to love about this weekend getaway?

- Awesome speaker, Tammy Kelm, from Lutheran Valley Retreat in Colorado
- Canoe or Kayak, Hike, take a Nap, Read, get a MASSAGE, make a Craft
- Hang with friends and meet new women
- Study God's Word: theme for the weekend is "Lavished."
- Enjoy God's amazing creation
- Renew and refresh your spirit with a Spirit-filled weekend!

\$115 (early registrations by Sept 29)

\$125 (after Sept 29)

Wish the weekend wouldn't end?

Stay till Monday for \$30!

Includes Sunday night lodging and 3 additional meals with departure on Monday, Oct 16.

The time is NOW to reserve your spot in the Retreat Center for a memorable weekend!

Join us for a "Marty Party" Dinner
 Saturday, October 7th,
 Tickets are \$12.50 per person.
 Proceeds will be donated to
 Lutheran World Relief

3910 S Yellowstone Suite 105. (old Melaleuca Bldg.) Proceeds will be donated to the Lutheran World Relief. Cash, checks or credit cards accepted for beer, wine and silent auction purchases.

