

# The Gospel Gazette

May  
2019

## St. John Lutheran Church

*The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod*

290 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Idaho Falls, ID  
83401

[www.stjohnministries.net](http://www.stjohnministries.net)

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

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

### Pastor

Stephen Weems

### St. John Officers

Gene Winter  
Chairman,  
Board of Directors

Todd Mary  
Chairman,  
Board of Elders

### Worship

9:30am - Sunday

*Communion every  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday*

10:30am - Fellowship

10:45am  
Sunday School  
& Bible Study

Wednesday  
Bible Study

9:30am

## Sunday Worship: Moving Forward

*Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary;  
praise him in his mighty heavens! Praise him  
for his mighty deeds; praise him according to  
his excellent greatness! Let everything that  
has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!*

Psalm 150: 1-2, 6

Take some time to read all of Psalm 150, six powerful verses written for worship. As God's people we are freed up to join our voices with the heavenly host in remembering God's mighty deeds especially those that have redeemed us in Jesus and have brought us to faith. We gather to praise him with everything we have. Notice, too, the variety of instruments and even dance that can be used to praise Him. He *is* worthy of our praise!

Before November 2018 our Praise Team was leading us in Sunday worship music twice a month, and since then they have led three times each month. It may take months, but in time they will lead worship each week.

### Thank you for sharing

The Elders thank those who stayed after Bible Classes to discuss worship music on three consecutive Sundays in March. In addition to the three meetings, the elders received feedback by direct communication, by email, and from the Board of Directors. We gained much from those thrilled with the changes and from those who would rather not move in this direction. With your help we have received feedback that music selections have improved, and we are now more sensitive to introducing music at a pace that benefits the people of St. John.

In May of 2018 when the possibility of change was first introduced, we spoke of only using the organ for special events. We have come to see the benefit of adding in traditional organ hymns along with choir and other music selections as they fit with the readings and the needs of each service without limiting them to special occasions only. The majority of Sunday worship music will be led by our Praise Team each week.

### What will NOT be changing

The chief components of our liturgy will continue to be present every week. We have gratefully received these from our Lutheran tradition. Together we will continue to share in the Scripture readings, the Sacraments, confession and absolution, prayer, the creeds, the Lord's Prayer, the Words of Institution, and in the Invocation and the Benediction. God uses these to serve us each week with His love and forgiveness.

We are committed to Lutheran doctrine and to clear Law and Gospel distinction in each message.

### You CAN count on this.

Selected Sunday Worship Music:

Will be Biblical

Will be Christ-Centered

Will proclaim the Good News

Will not work against the Christian Faith

### Why?


We have been experiencing music led by the Praise Team for many years. This move to a more consistent use of music led by our Praise Team is meant to be a tool we will use to reach and stay connected with the next generation. Everyone in worship will have the continuing opportunity to hear a message of God's rescuing love and forgiveness in Jesus. Our Savior declared his mission in Luke 19:10, "*The Son of Man came to seek and save the lost.*" Jesus' mission continues, and we are invited to join him. We want to choose what will make it easier for a person far from God to be connected to Him.

Per our congregational bylaws, the Elders are charged to "do everything possible to stimulate a greater appreciation, joy, and participation in public worship". We rejoice in the increased number of opportunities to serve and are very grateful for the growing number of musicians willing to use their skills in worship. The Board of Directors have reaffirmed their support to the Elders that this is the right direction for St. John Lutheran Church.

In His Grace,  
*Pastor Stephen*

Please join us for our fellowship potluck luncheon at noon on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month. This month, May 14<sup>th</sup>. Invite your family and friends to join us! Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. ~ 2 Corinthians 13:11 ESV



God Bless, Sheila K. 



Thank to all those contributing to **"First Sunday Food Offering"** Your generous support of the Idaho Falls Community Food Basket is amazing & always very appreciated. If you are unable to bring items on the first Sunday, they can still be brought in throughout the month (except for perishable items) and placed in the grocery cart. Thank you.

**Suggested items for May:** Rice (1 & 2 pound pkg.), saltine crackers, macaroni & cheese, feminine hygiene products. *\*\*There is no preference to brand names of donated items. Generic brands are welcome.*

**Hosted**  
*A welcoming time together!*

**Join us May 10<sup>th</sup> ~ For "Hosted - A welcoming time together"**

We will meet at City Bagels (369 Shoup Ave.), Friday evening, at 6:30pm. Bring your favorite appetizer to share. This is open to all adults that would like to attend - invite friends! Beer and wine will be provided. This is a new and fun opportunity to gather to enjoy fellowship and get to know one another better.

**Hosted** will usually be held once a month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday, so mark your calendar!!

## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes ~ March 2019

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

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Serving Our City** - Serving Opportunity will be 3/31/2019 at Pearl Health Clinic. We will serve a spaghetti dinner & have a Gospel message. Easter Eggs will be given away with an invite to SJLC for Easter and three will have tickets for a bigger Easter basket as a prize. Sign-ups are underway. **Hosted:** "A Welcoming Time Together" - These meetings began at City Bagel on 3/8/2019 & are scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month. The start time was moved to 6:30 to better accommodate those who work on Fridays. **New Member Sunday** - Moved to Palm Sunday, so Pastor can attend the Men's Retreat at Camp Perkins on 3/22-24/2019. Paul P. will lead & preach. Mark P. will lead the Bible Study. Open talks of changes in Worship Music have gone well. ~Good listening. Good ideas have been shared from parishioners. Praise Band leadership has been open to suggestions. Our wording has become more precise. Oversight & selection of music is improving. Easter Brunch is planned after Easter worship on April 21 - Jr. & Sr. youth have been asked to help with meal & clean up, a free will donation will be used to assist in sending children to Camp Perkins. **Properties** - We have been experiencing water leaking into the Narthex. Mark and Dan V. were able to look into the Narthex roof space. We hired a drone photographer who took video & photos of the Narthex roof and the metal roof valleys surrounding it. We are scheduling repairs. We have a bid from Holeshot Plumbing for the new garbage disposal in the kitchen as well as new sinks and faucets. Due to the increase of minor repairs necessary for most of the toilets in the church, we also had Holeshot give a bid for replacing with new comfort-height toilets. Due to the expense of the upcoming roof repairs, however, we may not be able to do some of the work proposed. Here is the breakdown: Kitchen Option 1 - \$1,790 - Use existing sinks in kitchen but update with new goose-neck faucets and new basket strainers, install a new disposal in the 3-bay sink, and new drain pipes. We propose we proceed with this work. Kitchen Option 2 - \$3,780 - Instead of using the existing sinks, replacing them with new stainless steel sinks, faucets, & the disposal. We don't recommend this option due to high cost. Restroom Upgrades - \$1,895 - Removal & disposal of old toilets and replacing them with elongated comfort-height toilets, and seats with open front covers, new bowl wax and supply line. We propose waiting to proceed with this work until we see how much the roof repairs will cost. Problems continue with the floodlight; it stopped working around Ash Wednesday. Mark & Dan K. were able to find the location where the floodlight wiring enters the church building. We recommend contracting with Young Electric to completely rewire the floodlight. We will proceed with getting a bid. Two heat registers in the sanctuary are not producing heat according to Jeff P. He wants to bring Kevin G. in to look at them. We don't think this has taken place yet. We were planning on resurfacing the parking lot this spring. The cost will be approximately \$3,600. However, we may delay this work one more year depending on the cost of the roof repairs. We have received the yard maintenance contract from All American Yards. It was automatically renewed for this summer.

(edited for space)

**The Financial Summary  
is not available this month.**



Nursery care is now available during  
Sunday Worship for children infant — age 3,  
from 9:15am ~ Noon.



On May 19, 2019, St. John will hold our semi-annual Congregational voters' meeting. We will have a potluck luncheon. We are asking that you contribute to the luncheon based on the first letter of your last name.

### **POTLUCK LUNCHEON DISH ASSIGNMENTS**

Last Name Beginning With:

**A - C** Bread/rolls/butter/honey

**D - E** Cheese or Fruit

**F - H** Green or Fruit Salad

**I - M** Pasta or Potato Dish

**N - P** Hot Dish / Casserole or Meat

**Q - T** Dessert

**U - Z** Clean-up and kitchen duties

**We ask that you please bring dishes  
ready to be served.**

This means containers ready to go on the tables, salads tossed, hot things cooked, and cakes/pies/brownies already cut. With limited kitchen space, and a desire to start the meeting on time, this will be a great help.

Thank you.

**Thank you for supporting our  
Congregational Voters' meeting!**

## **Board of Elders Minutes - March 2019**

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

Minutes - Board of Elders- 3-11-19 meeting

Discussion of the Bible Class schedule and adding more in depth study similar to a Bethel Series or Biermann video lecture. Will contact Adult Education Chairman with this suggestion.

Worship Services and Spiritual Life - Discussed need to work on projectors/ audio visual presentations.

Member contacts and care units: Reviewed homebound member visits. Discussed a potential service that could be held at Fairwinds.

Membership Actions: Need to visit new member who transferred from Crown of Life.

Elders nominations were discussed and contact plans made for May congregation meeting.

Discussed and approved limiting bible study to a devotion and forgoing Sunday School on 3-31-19 to allow time to setup for Fifth Sunday service event.

Old Business: Discussed input received from informational meetings that were held. Discussed holding Membership Recognition Sunday on April 14<sup>th</sup>.

*(edited for space)*



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\* Camp Perkins offers week long camps for \*  
 \* kids of all ages, family camps, and weekend \*  
 \* retreats. They have many options that will fit \*  
 \* your family' needs, including special add on \*  
 \* camps that match your child's interests!. \*  
 \* Go to **CampPerkins.org** to find the dates \*  
 \* for camp that will work for your schedule. \*  
 \* **2019 Summer Camp Pricing** \*  
 \* Through May 16: \$340 \*  
 \* After May 16: \$350 \*  
 \* ***Final Balance Due June 6*** \*  
 \*  **CAMP PERKINS** \*  
 \* *Lutheran Outdoor Ministries* \*  
 \* \*\*\*\*\*



## VBS will be held June 24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>!

**GOD IS OUR REFUGE!!** Did you know God is our Refuge wherever we are or even (*especially!*) when things get hard? These are some of the things we will be learning in Vacation Bible School. *Kids have told us how they read their bibles and are having devotion times with their families because they have been so encouraged and guided in VBS. Praise God!!*

**Would you ask God to show you how He can use you this summer at St. John VBS?** We have *many* great ways that you can serve. There are opportunities to serve as a Host Family for the some Camp Perkins Counselors, to be a greeter, who will be a friendly face to welcome parents & campers at our registration tables (and help them to fill out their registration forms), to be one of several people to help with snacks for our hungry campers, or a class volunteer that helps get the kiddos from bible study to crafts, and then outdoors for fun and games. Whatever your God given talents and gifts, we have a place available for you to serve!

**There will be a table and sign-up sheet in the Narthex starting in May.**

***What a privilege we have to share Jesus*** with our children, our neighbors, and our community and have fun doing it!