

The Gospel Gazette

May 2017

St. John Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

290 7th Street
Idaho Falls, Idaho
83401

www.stjohnministries.net

Phone: (208) 522-5650

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs.

9-3:00pm

office@stjohnministries.net

Pastor

Stephen Weems

St. John Officers

Dan Vetter,
Chairman, Board
of Directors

Dave Van Haften,
Chairman, Board of
Elders

Worship

9:00 am - Sunday

Communion every 1st &
3rd Sunday

10:15am - Fellowship

10:30am - Sunday
School

10:30am - Bible
Study

Wednesday Bible
Study

9:30 am

Letter of Acceptance

To God's people of St. John Lutheran Church, Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Laurie and I are truly humbled and honored that you have extended a call for me to serve as your pastor. I accept the call and am excited to begin serving with all of you. God has great things for the Church to do. What a privilege to continue Word and Sacrament ministry to God's people that he began 104 years ago. May Idaho Falls be eternally blessed through his Church.

We leave St. John's Lutheran Church, Denver, Colorado, with grateful hearts having been patiently trained and mentored.

We have many friends that we hope will visit us in Idaho Falls; we know they will love it as we do.

The love we experienced in Denver and the openness to relationship extended to us gives us confidence that God will allow us to enjoy the same with all of you.

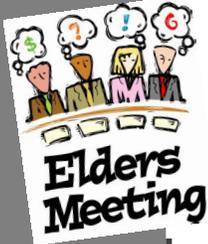
We are so pleased to deepen friendships that began when we were able to be with you for four months at the end of 2016, and we are looking forward to many more connections in the years ahead.



Until we see you in early May, may your confidence in God's grace & forgiveness demonstrated in Jesus only deepen.

Laurie and Pastor Stephen Weems

Board of Elders Minutes-April 2017



Pastor's Report: N/A.

Member contacts and Care Units:

Discussion centered again on the need for attention to our shut-in and homebound members. George P. provided insight into this ministry and stressed the need for volunteers to provide ongoing fellowship with these members of our SJ family, with communion and spiritual contact returning to the auspices of the Board of Elders. The Board also acknowledged the need for ongoing encouragement and feedback for those who volunteer in this vital ministry area. Regarding a new member class, Jim W. will begin a membership class on April 4.

Membership Actions: No actions this month.

Worship Services and Spiritual Life: The Board decided to forego Bible study on Easter morning, in order to allow for a time of fellowship following worship service.

The Board discussed the need for guidelines regarding the use of cameras during worship and special events therein (e.g., baptisms). Finally, participation of St John in the summer worship service at Little Church in the Pines was discussed, with particular attention given to assistance during communion; a decision in this regard remained open.

Old Business: Continued the identification of individuals to prayerfully consider serving on the Board of Elders during the next term, which begins in July, as the terms for three current elders will be coming to a close. Todd M. presented the preliminary 2017-1018 Elder's budget for discussion.

The next Board of Elders meeting is scheduled for May 1, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

"People of God, we give thanks"

Called to Serve

People of God, we give thanks! Pastor Stephen Weems has accepted our Call to serve us in the Office of the Ministry of Word and Sacrament. His last Sunday in Denver will be April 30, and he and Laurie are planning to travel from Denver to Idaho Falls on May 5 and 6. He will preach his first sermon here on May 21.

Thanks to the members of the Call Committee: David B., Don C., Chuck H., Vicki J., Mark P., and Jackie R.

Thanks also to the members of the Board of Elders, Dan V. and the Board of Directors, and the members of the Congregation for support, encouragement, and patience.

Dave

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen. — Ephesians 3:20-21 (ESV)



2017 Graduates

We would like to recognize your graduates for 2017. If you have a loved one is graduating, please email their name and accomplishment to the St. John at office@stjohnministries.net on or before May 15th, they will be recognized in the June newsletter.

Vacation Bible School Update

There has been a change of date for VBS this year. Signe, the Camp Perkins director, inadvertently gave our date time to another church. The NEW date for VBS Camp will be June 26-29 and because Friday starts the 4th of July holiday, we will only go through Thursday, June 29th.

Unfortunately, this happens to be the same week Hope Lutheran has their VBS, in order to not compete with them, St. John will have VBS camp in the afternoon from 1:00 - 4:00pm.

If it is too hot, we can have our classes in the classrooms downstairs, water will be available all afternoon,

and we will have the option to go to Kate Curley park in groups to have our Fun time. Hope Lutheran has offered to advertise our VBS right after theirs.

Deb has been dealing with some health problems and will need a lot of participation from the church. We will need someone to do the afternoon snack, registration, and guides for each age group.

REMEMBER we do not have to teach, Camp Perkins has that job, but our guides will need to be there to help the Camp counselors keep order and help some of the children with their crafts.

We will still be having our Thursday night dinner for the neighborhood that will be catered. This is a great outreach and we encourage all members to come and meet our neighbors.



Meet Our New Neighbor

We have a new guest staying at the Hope House. Her name is Keshia. She moved into the house in March and she is a remarkable woman who has experienced a lot in her life. Please take a moment to stop by and visit her.

Jim

My name is Keshia. I am 27 years old with a 2 year old son. I recently gained full custody. I am a survivor of domestic violence. Today I am 8 and a half months clean, thanks to the treatment I received in the Bonneville County drug court. I love being outdoors and spending time with my family. My sister is my best support and we do a lot of craft activities together. Getting clean and getting off of drugs and being in an environment without abuse has truly allowed me to become an independent female and I thank God for the blessings he has given me.

Keisha



Human Care

- One Church One Child Liaison- FosteringIdaho is an organization that works with the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare to support, train, and recruit foster families. Our job is to build partnerships with churches in the community to support foster families. There are many small ways to help foster children and parents. This could be through donations of clothing or toiletries, providing a facility for support groups, or inviting foster families to events with the church, or just spreading the word about foster care to your congregants. If you would like to donate to FosteringIdaho, please contact the church office 522-5650.
- Please join us for our Fellowship Potluck Luncheon on Tuesday, May 9th at noon. Everyone is welcome, bring your family and friends for an opportunity to get to know each other better.
- Game Night is Friday, May 19th starting at 6:30pm. All ages are welcome and if the weather is good we may do outdoor games.
- We help serve at the Soup Kitchen on Tuesday, May 23rd from 10:30-2:30pm.
- The next Red Cross Blood Drive is Thursday, June 1 from 3:00-7:00pm.

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9

God Bless, Sheila



Hope Lutheran Church is having a garage sale on Saturday, May 13th! If you have gently used items that are no longer needed, please consider donating them to Hope's garage sale.

Donations may be brought to the gym beginning Monday, May 8.

We also need volunteers to help set up, sort, price donations, and help the morning of the sale.



We would like to thank everyone who put together and participated in the fundraiser dinner for my liver transplant. We are so very thankful for the money raised for my liver transplant. Thank You.

*God Bless,
Marty & Bev*

God Bless Mothers!

