

**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
pastorstephen83401@gmail.com

DCE Intern

Jacob Pralle
Jcpralle.DCE@gmail.com

St. John Officer

Bryan Northcutt
Chairman,
Board of Directors



Sunday

In-Person Worship
9:30am

9:30am Live-Stream:
<https://www.facebook.com/stjohnidahofalls>

or:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqfTbbuM5U7-IFB7bMslQaQ>

Communion every
1st & 3rd Sunday

10:30am - Fellowship

10:45am

- Adult Bible Class
- New Member Class

***Sunday School
resumes in September

**Wednesday
Bible Study**
10:00am

The *Gospel Gazette*

Foundations Don't Have Curb Appeal, But Foundations Are Essential.

Laurie & I love to watch shows on HGTV. Those home fix-it programs with wonderful before and after examples of what can be done with new construction and with restoration homes are enjoyable to watch. Very few of the shows spend much time describing the foundation of the home. Usually there is a reference to a home inspection evaluating the condition, but minutes per episode is sparse. And on the final reveal of each project, I have never heard one say to the surprised owners, "Oh, let me show you the details of the foundation!"

Viewers and the homeowners want to see new, shiny, creative, beautiful details. But let's be clear; if what is new, shiny, creative and beautiful rests on a poor foundation, the house will eventually have serious and costly problems. The house itself may eventually crumble and fail.

Remember the video footage of the condominium collapse in Surfside, Florida, just a little more than one year ago? The beachfront property known as Chamberlain Tower South partially collapsed at 1:22 a.m. on June 24, 2021. Ninety-seven people died and another died shortly after being brought to the hospital with injuries. Three years earlier an inspection had revealed that the reinforced supports to the building were deteriorating and if not corrected would deteriorate further and rapidly. The price to fix the problem was estimated at \$15 million and was not done in time. The settlement with families harmed has now topped \$1 billion dollars.

Foundations are essential.

According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 3:10-11).

The Apostle Paul was careful to plant

communities of faith whose foundation was Jesus. He was clear that anything built from there was not to threaten or cause deterioration of that foundation. The Church, the Body of Christ, is to be fully supported and dependent upon Jesus who has rescued us to be his own. Paul wrote, **"For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ... so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God"** (1 Cor. 2:2,5).

Foundations make all the difference.

We count on Grace Alone, Faith Alone, Scripture Alone. The undeserved favor of God, grace alone, is the only reason we are children of God today.



This gift is not deserved or earned but is received as a gift through faith alone not as the result of any action on our part. We are certain of this through the words of Scripture alone, the words God has chosen to reveal to us in the Bible.

Foundations need ongoing attention. I commend to you an old but still meaningful book. It is a book penned by the great reformer, Martin Luther, and published in 1529. Luther's Small Catechism, designed as a tool for parents in teaching their children in the home, points in every way to Jesus. Perhaps alongside your regular devotional time in God's word, spend five minutes in the Catechism. Reacquaint yourself with this faith supporting work. It will only reinforce the foundation of the Church and the foundation of your faith.

We are wise to turn our attention to Jesus and to what he taught us, for he tells us himself, **"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock"** (Matthew 7:24). He is our firm foundation.

In His Grace, Pastor Stephen



Thank you, thank you, thank you to all who helped make VBS a success!!! We thank God for each of you who volunteered. Each of you are such an amazing blessing. It is great to serve with such a dedicated and talented team. The kids had a great time, and most importantly, heard the Gospel message!

“Coffee & Conversation” after Worship is a valuable time to meet new friends or strengthen bonds in our St. John family! It is an extra blessing when we have refreshments to enjoy. We give thanks for everyone who has signed up for a Sunday (or many) to serve. **We are always looking for volunteers to host.** The more people who take a turn to host, the less chance we overburden anyone! You can host a Sunday by yourself, or share the fun & ask a friend to help!!

The sign-up calendar is located on the counter where coffee is served.

Treats are optional, and can be homemade or store-bought. Thank you!



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes ~ May 2022

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

The May Voters' meeting served as the May Meeting for BOD.

During the meeting, voters approved:

- The Budget for next fiscal year (beginning July 1st, 2022 ending June 30th, 2023)
- Bryan Northcutt to serve as Chair of BOD
- Beth Owings to serve as Treasurer
- Extending a call to Jacob Pralle to serve as Director of Christian Education
- Scott Stultz and Jeff Peterson to serve on Board of Elders

(Full minutes on file in Church office)

(edited for space)

Board of Elders Meeting Minutes ~ May 2022

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

Board of Elders minutes for 5/04/22. Opened meeting at 7:00 pm at St John. Present, Jim, Mike, and Pastor Stephen
 Opening Devotion by Pastor. Approved minutes of 4/05/22 with modifications. Discussed Pastor's Report. (attached)
 Discussed DCE Report. (attached) **Worship Services and Spiritual Life:** a) Triad Update; Discussed Triad informational time. b) A New Member Class has started and will continue for next 12 weeks. c) June 5th St John will have a guest organist for our Service. d) VBS will be held June 12-15. e) Summer Worship and Bible Class were discussed. We will not hold Sunday School during the summer break. f) Elders will be looking into automating the prayer chain to allow more flexibility and availability for prayer requests. **Member contacts and care units:** a) Encouraged Elders to reach out to members in care units. **Membership Actions:** none. **Old Business:** a) Two men have agreed to serve as Elders for the next term. The names will be presented at the May voters meeting. b) We have three new guests in the Hope House. They will stay until the end of September. c) Mike S. will give the Elders report at the voters meeting. d) The Elders will recommend that we call Jacob Pralle as a DCE at the voters meeting.

(Full minutes on file in Church office)

(edited for space)



The Potluck will resume in September. *Enjoy your summer!!*



Thank you to all those who contribute to “**First Sunday Food Offering**”. Your generous support of the IF Community Food Basket is such a blessing to those who struggle with food insecurity. The Food Basket accepts donations all month long. Presently, the **greatest need** continues to be **funds to purchase food**. *The food basket is able to use monetary donations to purchase food in bulk for pennies on the dollar.*



Suggested items for July: Macaroni noodles, canned meats (tuna, chicken, salmon, spam), peanut butter, toothpaste. **For August:** Potatoes (fresh or dehydrated), fresh produce from home gardens, baby food and formula.

****Generic brands are welcome.*** Please, NO GLASS JARS.*

Please mail financial contributions to IFCFB, P.O. Box 2236, Idaho Falls, ID 83403

St. John offers care-giving through the Stephen Ministry Program



Stephen Ministers: Stephen Ministers are congregation members trained by Stephen Leaders to offer high-quality, **confidential**, one-to-one Christian care to people going through tough times. A Stephen Minister usually provides care to one person at a time, meeting with them once a week for about an hour. St. John currently has 9 trained Stephen Ministers.

Care Receivers: Care receivers are people - congregation members **and others** in the community (a person does not need to be a member at St. John to receive care) - who receive care from a Stephen Minister. These are people struggling through a difficult time in life - experiencing grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or any life crisis.



If you, or someone you know, could benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister, please contact the office.



SALT + LIGHT

You can listen to **The Lutheran Hour** in Idaho Falls on these stations:

KAWZ: 89.1 FM ~ Sunday: 8:00am

KID: 590 AM ~ Sunday: 9:00am

KIDG: 92.1 FM ~ Sunday: 9:00am



St. John Summer Rummage Sale



We have set the dates for our next rummage sale for July 29th & 30th.

If you have items to donate, please bring them during office hours.

Volunteers to price items and work the sale are always welcome & very much needed. **Please consider helping with this upcoming sale.** Any gift of your time, big or small, will help and is very appreciated. Thank you.

Youth News & Events

For more information on anything listed here, call or email Jacob at: Jcpralle.DCE@gmail.com or 208-522-5650

YOUTH SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS: *Stay tuned for upcoming youth studies starting in September!!*

BIBLE BUDDIES: St. John has an *exciting* opportunity for youth 10th–12th grade! You have the chance to pair up with one of the younglings & help them learn how to use their Bibles! However, you are **not** required to be in charge! This is a great way to share the love of Jesus! For more information contact Jacob P. (listed above) or Abby S. abbyshirts@gmail.com



NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING: "IN ALL THINGS" We're going to Houston!!! The days are ticking down and we're *PUMPED-UP* for everything in store for our Youth that are attending the LCMS "In All Things" National Youth Gathering! At the Gathering, we will reflect on how the Christian story encompasses all things. Nothing, and no one is left out. In baptism, all things in our lives are brought under the gracious rule and reign of Jesus Christ. This story includes all of each of us, and we're privileged to be able to add this chapter for our Youth here at both St. John and Hope. We ask for your prayers for safety as we travel to & from the Gathering on July 6th and July 13th. Throughout this Gathering experience, we also ask for your prayers for each of the youth who will be attending. The NYG is not the peak of their faith journey, rather it is a BIG chapter along the way. As our Youth take the opportunity to reflect on Christ's work in their lives, your relationships and support with these Youth is equally vital! Thank you to all who made this experience possible for these Youth! We look forward to sharing our stories and "how IN HIM (we) all things hold together!" (Colossians 1:15-20)

THE NEXT CHAPTER YOUTH GROUP (TNC): Youth grades 6th to 12th are invited to join. We have added another page to *the next chapter* in partnering with youth at Hope Lutheran and Crown of Life! **We are now on our Summer Schedule.** We will be meeting once a month throughout the summer. We will meet at Hope Lutheran on July 25th from 6:00-8:00 and at St. John on August 15th from 6:00-8:00. Keep up to date on all the other various opportunities at St. John this summer!!! See Jacob Pralle or contact by email for more details!

Youth Celebrating a Birthday

in July

7/24 ~ Danika N.



Youth Celebrating a Birthday

in August

8/15 ~ John P.