



Youth & Young Adults

This September we have transitioned from summer ministry to school year ministry, and it has been great! My vision for this year is that the youth who attend Sunday night Bible study will grow in their daily Bible reading and then begin to take more and more leadership with our Wednesday night youth group. This will be a great way for older youth to utilize their different giftings in active ministry while we corporately submit ourselves to God's Word!

That brings us to this year's theme, the study of the Old Testament. Growing up here at ECC, I felt that I knew a lot of Bible stories, but was especially impacted by my private reading of Scripture and the ability to see the general flow of the Scripture narrative. Simply seeing the stories of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Rahab, Ruth, David, and many others chronologically really helps us grasp how God has revealed Himself throughout history. So far, we have covered Genesis 1-11 and the book of Job which has led us to understand that God is good, that God is holy, that humans bear His image, that humans are helplessly wretched, and that we desperately need a Savior.

Job 42:1-6

¹ Then Job answered the Lord and said: ² "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted. ³ "Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?" Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. ⁴ "Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you make it known to me." ⁵ I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; ⁶ therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes."

On a personal note, continue to pray for Rachel and me as we continue to not just labor in youth ministry, but also as we are involved in the young adult ministry here at ECC. We have become very passionate about continuing to study God's Word with the recent high school graduates and with others in this community who are just starting to come to know and delight in this glorious God whom we serve.

Grace be with you,
Marco



Behind the Scenes

Unlock the church doors. Turn on the lights. Take a sip of coffee (optional, but preferred by many). Power up the sound system, projector, and computers. Tune instruments. Warm up voices. Rehearse songs. Sip coffee. Adjust audio levels. Test out videos and PowerPoint's for the service. Prepare the live stream. Gather together and pray. Refill coffee cup. This is a behind-the-scenes look into what a Sunday morning looks like for many of those involved in the service.

Not everyone gets to see all that happens on Sunday mornings before the service begins, and all of the prep that goes into each week from all those involved. The hours that Will spends getting everything prepped and ready to go on the computer. The time that Ian and Mike spend EQ-ing, mixing, and making sure that audio is clear and high quality. The amount of practicing each band member does to prepare for each Sunday morning service. That's just to name a few. And the best part is that none of it is done to please ourselves, but rather to worship our Savior in a variety of ways. It has been a blessing to me to see all of the ways God has gifted each of us individually to work together as a body of Christ to serve others and glorify Him.

¹ Peter 4:10-11 says,

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen".

If you're looking for a way to get plugged into a ministry here at I Falls Covenant, we are always looking for help with visual production. This could look like either helping out with the live stream or the computer slides. Both are very teachable and a fun way to serve, and you can contact me at tess.vollom@ifallscovenant.org for more information. If you are musically gifted and want to glorify God by serving in the worship band, reach out to me at the above email address for an application and/or to get more information!



October Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Oct 2 - Nancy Johnson
- Oct 4 -- David Griffith
-- Paul & Chelsea Peterson
- Oct 5 -- Mark Rooney
- Oct 7 -- Jim Bissonnette
-- Todd & Rosa Christianson
- Oct 8 -- Maurice Ohlquist
- Oct 9 -- Alec Arch
-- Jillian Bilben
- Oct 10 -- Dick Frederick
-- Victoria Galusha
-- Dick Lorette
- Oct 11 -- Jim Hummel
- Oct 12 -- Luke Zika
- Oct 13 -- Ariana Vacura
- Oct 17 -- Stan & Lila Kuttles
- Oct 18 -- Barb Herry
-- Jim Lyman
- Oct 19 -- Doug Galusha
-- Dawnelle Meyers
- Oct 20 -- Karla Line
- Oct 21 -- Ben & Karla Line
-- Eric & Connie Todd
- Oct 22 -- Jennifer Holm
- Oct 25 -- Shelby Layman
-- Nick Steines
-- Jerry & Kimberly Dawn Nyborg
- Oct 26 -- Bill Maruk
-- Eric & Stacy Hall
- Oct 27 -- Barb Cassibo
-- Tom Holm Sr.
- Oct 28 -- Peggy Ridgeway
- Oct 29 -- Adam & Danni Aili
-- Gary & Terri Anderson



Short Term Mission's Trip

Planning continues for the upcoming trip to Costa Rica in February of 2022.

- **Envelopes on the Window** - Please choose an envelope with a number, put that amount of money in it, and put it in the offering box. Choose one that has a special meaning—your birthday or anniversary, the ages of your grandkids, added up, or the number of years you've gone to this church.
- **Fall service projects** - the team will help those who can't do these things for themselves or don't have time—like rake leaves, wash windows, clean up gardens for a free will donation. Call Lynn Peterson, 218-324-0508 if interested.

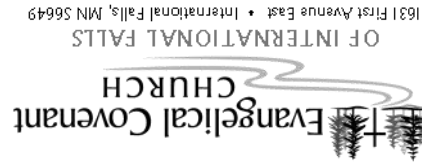




New Testament		Old Testament	
▶ JOHN		▶ ECCLES.	
1. <input type="checkbox"/> 1:1-18	▶ JAMES	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	▶ JEREMIAH
2. <input type="checkbox"/> 1:19-28	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:1-11	<input type="checkbox"/> 2:1-16	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-2
3. <input type="checkbox"/> 1:29-34	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:12-18	<input type="checkbox"/> 2:17-26	<input type="checkbox"/> 3-4
4. <input type="checkbox"/> 1:35-42	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:19-27	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:1-15	<input type="checkbox"/> 5-6
5. <input type="checkbox"/> 1:43-51	<input type="checkbox"/> 2:1-13	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:16-22	<input type="checkbox"/> 7-9
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8. <input type="checkbox"/> 3:1-15	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:13-18	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 14-15
9. <input type="checkbox"/> 3:16-21	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:1-10	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:1-14	<input type="checkbox"/> 16-18
10. <input type="checkbox"/> 3:22-36	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:11-17	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:15-29	<input type="checkbox"/> 19-22
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13. <input type="checkbox"/> 4:27-42	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:1-9	<input type="checkbox"/> 10	<input type="checkbox"/> 32-34
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17. <input type="checkbox"/> 5:31-47	<input type="checkbox"/> 2:9-17	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 44-46
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25. <input type="checkbox"/> 7:25-36	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:8-14	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
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A Cup of Coffee with Pastor Seth . . .

God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.
- 1 Peter 4.10 NLT

We just began a sermon series on spiritual gifts called "Empowered." The main idea is that God has empowered every Christian with spiritual gifts to continue the work of Jesus on earth. If you are a Christian, you have the Holy Spirit in you who empowers you with spiritual gifts. The question is - do you know what your Spiritual gift is?

I have discovered my spiritual gifts in a few ways. First, I took a spiritual gift assessment. These are helpful in getting us started in recognizing our gifts. We have provided one on www.freeshapetest.com. If you fill it out, please send it to the church email (ecc@ifallscovenant.org). We also have paper copies available upon request. Second, I discovered my gifts on my own. I noticed that when I taught a Bible study or explained God's word to individuals I felt energized and was able to connect Scripture to situations. Think about times you have served others in some kind of way. Did you notice a certain fulfillment you got from it or that your efforts were energized? It may be a gift of the Holy Spirit. Third, someone once told me that they saw a pastor in me by observing me. If you notice a gift in someone don't keep it to yourself. Encourage them by telling them the gifts you see in them.

Are you part of a small group that can help you see in yourself what you might not recognize by yourself? If not, I'd encourage you to contact the church to express interest in starting or being part of a small group. I would like to see small groups forming to discuss, discern, and discover together the spiritual gifts God has given each person and how they might use them. God has empowered every Christian with spiritual gifts to continue the work of Jesus on earth. Do you know what your gift is? Are you using your gifts to serve?

Mercy, peace & love be yours in abundance.
Pastor Seth

- In This Edition...**
- Cup of Coffee with Pastor Seth
 - Youth & Young Adults
 - Leadership Team
 - People to Celebrate
 - Celebrate Recovery
 - Missions Update
 - Mission's Trip
 - Coming Events

Awana Clubs

- October 6
 - Registration at 6:30pm & a sweet treat
- October 13
 - Supper at 5:15-5:45pm
 - Clubs at 6-7:30pm

(Supper is for the entire family!)



This Strategic Time

No passage of Scripture is more strategic for the church than the Great Commission spoken by Jesus in Matthew 28 where he says, *“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*

In our September Leadership meeting we realized that we have had six baptismal events over the past year, with the most recent taking place on September 12, and we have also celebrated conversions to Christ. These deep commitments to the Lordship of Christ are very significant and are the Holy Spirit’s work among us. We are also excited about a February mission trip to Costa Rica which is currently in its fundraising mode for a dozen who are planning to participate. Our recent Ministry Fair and our pastor’s current teaching on spiritual gifts challenge us to find our place as followers of Jesus, with each of us obediently doing our part in fulfilling the Great Commission.

As everyone knows, we are in uncharted waters due to COVID, but we cling to our Lord’s promise: *“Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”* Among the changes, we have just been informed that Rev. Mark Stromberg, Superin-

tendent of our Northwest Conference (one of ten conferences that comprise our Covenant in the United States and Canada) will be retiring at the end of June. We have also learned that Rev. John Wenrich, President of our denomination, will not seek reelection at the Annual Meeting of the Evangelical Covenant Church in June. Search teams have already been constituted to discern their replacements. We are prayerfully seeking God’s leading in this time of leadership transition.

In local church business, we are attempting to sell a small donated lot on Lynx Island through Island View Realty. Our new boiler system has been installed in time for the heating season. Two replacement freezers have been acquired for our kitchen, and memorial monies have been used to update our table centerpieces for the Family Life Center. Pastor Seth has also started classes at George Fox Seminary near Portland - a condition of his call - and as these classes enrich him, he enriches us. He will occasionally travel to Portland until his Master of Divinity is completed (six or seven years as a part-time student), and we will be making necessary adjustments to cover his absence.

We are so grateful for your continuing support of this congregation and are excited to see what unfolds in the days ahead. To God be the glory!

Alan Johnson, Church Chair

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

TUESDAYS AT 7PM

Questions?

- Mary LePage @ 218.206.4814
- Will Davies @218.240.1003

Awana Leader Training

Monday, Oct 4 at 6:30pm



Helping our Kids Grow

Ephesians 2.8-9 makes it clear we are not saved by works, but by the undeserved grace of God: *For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.* I love that, directly after Paul tells us we’re saved by grace through faith, and that it is not the result of works, but a gift of God, he tells us that we are designed to work for God. Verse 10 says: *For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.* Part of helping our kids grow to serve Jesus in all they do is rightly stewarding their abilities and—once they are saved—their spiritual gifts. If our kids are created in Jesus for good works, then as parents who love Jesus and love our kids, we want to help them walk in the good works they were created for. While spiritual gifts are reserved for people who have been saved by grace and who are in-filled with the Holy Spirit, everyone has been given natural talents and abilities. We can identify the natural talents the Lord has given our kids by observing them.

- What are our kids naturally good at?
- How do they relate to the world around them?
- What natural talents and skills do they display?
- In what ways do they enjoy serving others?

The best way I found to observe these natural giftings was to allow my kids exposure to a variety of input.

- We allowed them to pursue their interests and passions in their free-time.
- We limited their media usage to allow them to have free time.
- We looked for opportunities to serve together that interested them.

As I watched my kids grow, I began to see where God has gifted them with talents. My goal was never to steer my children in a given direction—my goal was to help them develop the areas they would use to God’s glory. Serve with Love, Stacy



Mission’s Update

George and Kathy Schultz - Center for Intercultural Training, prepares and debriefs missionaries coming and going from overseas.

The center is short on staff because some have COVID and some are quarantined, so George has taken on more duties. Pray that no one else gets it.

Personally, Kathy’s 92 year old father had a heart attack in June, moved to assisted living, and is having a hard adjustment. She has shingles now, and their granddaughter has a health issue. Please pray for them.

Dennis and Bonnie Clark - with the Navigators in Arkansas. This is directly from Dennis:

- This week I will be meeting with 3 younger staff that I supervise here in NWA. Please pray that I would be sensitive to their personal as well as their ministry needs and that the Holy Spirit would bring to mind the appropriate Truth from His Word. (John 14.26)
- Pray for a young family man (Caleb) in his 30’s. We have met a half dozen times and he seems eager to know the Lord. He works full time, has a wife and 2 young children and is working on his MBA so time is at a premium for him.
- We have our granddaughter Lexi, her husband Jacob and 5 month old baby, Ember, living with us for several months while they build a house. Pray that we walk in the spirit and have a deep and lasting impact on them. Thank you for your continued prayer and support. We are very grateful!

Todd and Penny Beaudin - Cadence, a ministry with the military personnel in Hawaii. This is directly from Todd:

- Pray for continued blessing as we navigate the hurdles COVID and the politicians here have complicated things. We are ministering to as many people as pre-COVID, it just takes a lot more work. We are studying the book of Romans with our military personnel and having excellent discussions about salvation, sanctification, and sharing Christ with others. Lots of discipleship happening!
- Pray for the safe delivery of our first grand baby in mid-January. Her name will be Penny Rose in honor of her Grandma Penny Clement Beaudin!