

JUNE • JULY • AUGUST 2025

# THE FAMILY MESSENGER

Newsletter of the I Falls Covenant Church

## All Church Retreat at Bluewater Covenant



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## A Cup of Coffee with Pastor Seth & Kaitlyn

It's a girl! Yes, we are excited to announce that we are going to have a baby girl, due December 9. Those of you who have been following along know that the last year has been a lot of change for us. In June we met each other. Two weeks later we started dating. Two months later we got engaged. Five months later we got married, and two months later we got pregnant!

I (Seth) have said that the word that best describes the last year of my life has been "blessed." I've found myself saying that word more than any other year because all of these changes have been blessing after blessing. I choose to receive them as a blessing, as well. There is no such thing as luck. Luck comes from nowhere. A blessing comes from above. I know that all of these things are a gift from God, not luck. The other aspect of blessing is that I did nothing to deserve it. It is not karma. There is no such thing as karma. No one is deserving, not even one, so no man can boast. Every good and perfect gift comes from God above. God chose to bless me and I am grateful. I know that this is a season of blessing. I know that at other times life will be difficult. No matter what season I'm in, I'm learning to be content in all of it.

We would welcome you to pray along with us for our baby girl; for health for her and Kaitlyn, for her life, and that she may come to know and love the Lord who loves her and knew her before she was conceived. We pray for you in whatever season of life you may be experiencing as you read this. May you now and love the Lord more than you ever have and know how much He loves you. May you love the giver more than the gift. May you be blessed.

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



## God's Goodness & Provision

BY PASTOR MARCO & RACHEL

The last few months have shown me how desperately I need to depend on He who loves me. It has been tough in I Falls lately, but our awesome God continues to be good. With the passing of Christian Hufnagle we saw tremendous pain in the youth group, young adult group, in me and Rachel personally, and in our community as a whole. Despite this, after meeting with many people to process this death, we have seen God's wonderful care. Instead of hiding from the pain with drugs, alcohol, or isolation – we have seen both youth and young adults grow in their walks with God, go to Him in their hurt, connect with the body of Christ, and ultimately rest in Him. This isn't to say that the pain isn't still there or that no one has struggled, but it reveals that the promises of God remain true. That like a loving Father, He will embrace us in our questions and in our pain. He continually shows His goodness to us.

Matthew 11:28-30 – “Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS. “For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

We've desperately had to depend on God in our personal lives as well. While getting tested to be a kidney donor, multiple tumors were discovered on my pancreas. After looking into pancreatic cancer and finding out how serious and life-threatening it was, we were shaken up. Thankfully, after further tests and clarification it now seems that my particular tumors are not the kind that are normally associated with pancreatic cancer and that everything is looking far more positive. What a rollercoaster of emotions! Still, contemplating my mortality has been a blessing. I long to cling more aggressively to my Savior than finances, fame, talent, or even my life. Still, we'd appreciate prayer as there is potential of a surgery with a 6 week recovery time, which would be especially difficult considering our current family situation.

Which brings us to our most recent news! On May 15, Rachel and I welcomed two foster sisters into our home. We're now outnumbered with four kids who are all under four years old! It has been amazing, exhausting, humbling, and once again a reminder that we desperately need God! Without God's grace and the support of our church (and biological) family through meals, prayer, and meeting other random needs, we truly would not be able to take this on. Thank you so much for loving and caring for Rachel and I throughout all of the things happening in our lives personally and in ministry. Please continually be praying for us!

Loving life for He is life,  
Marco & Rachel



## Dude's Day & Girl's Day



The Dudes from the youth group met at Zach & Erika Scofield's home, enjoyed each other's company and ate smoked ribs & brisket. Marco & Rachel hosted the Girl's Day at their home; the girls enjoyed a lovely charcuterie board & did a craft project together.





## Men's Breakfast



Men, you are invited to gather the first Saturday of each month at 8am in the gym for breakfast & time of connection with other men.

## Living Last Supper



## Vacation Bible School



JUNE 17-19 · 10-11:30AM

K-5TH



COVENANT CHURCH · 1631 1<sup>ST</sup> AVE E



# Upcoming Summer Calendar

## **Men's Breakfast • Saturdays at 8am**

June 7

July 5

August 2

**Buffalo Covenant Mission Group • June 16-20 •** The group of junior high youth will be doing service projects and leading VBS.

## **All Church Retreat at BCBC**

• July 11-13

Sign-up in the lobby for the entire weekend or if you will be traveling down for a portion of the time, please let the office know.