



**Report of the Idaho Circuit
Biennial Pacific Northwest District Convention, WELS
June 14-15, 2016**

Messiah, Nampa

Pastor Ed Frey, Pastor Howard Mohlke

Messiah Lutheran is continuing to move forward in its Ephesians 4:12 vision of **Equipping God's People for Works of Service**. This has proven to be a rewarding challenge as members are called wrestle with identifying spiritual gifts and how best to use them in God's kingdom.

Two objectives are met as this vision is carried out. One of the objectives is to encourage and train members to be more willing and able to share their faith more often in their lives. This involves training door-to-door canvassing, Law-Gospel witness, as well as how to be comfortable witnessing Christian faith in a growing population of skeptics and de-churched families. The second objective is the development of implementation of a holistic mentoring ministry that will encompass the overall demographic of the congregation. Coupled together, these two objectives offer Messiah a renewed farming strategy with our preschool families to intergenerational discipleship among Messiah members. Two blessings that have come to the front are: greater awareness as to how each of Christian is gifted to serve in outreach and evangelism; and encouragement to be equipped to be fellow disciples to one another.

A current struggle that Messiah faces is the ongoing financial challenge to maintain current pastoral staff. A comprehensive stewardship program is being created and will be used in the congregation to review biblical principles of Christian stewardship as well as to encourage the members to support the vision and ministry of Messiah. This fall will be an important time for Messiah and its ministry as the congregation will evaluate its progress at that point.

Truth in Love Ministry

Pastor Mark Cares

Once again I am sorry that I won't be with you at District Convention. Instead I will be in Utah for our annual two-week campaign. This year we have 50 volunteers from across the country helping us go door to door. We anticipate that we will again get into hundreds of in-depth conversations with Mormons.

As exciting as that is, we are even more excited about our recently adopted vision of training 80,000 Christians, by 2021, to share God's Word with Mormons. We are presently laying the foundation for this effort. You will be hearing much more about it in the future.

In the meantime, we are continuing to train people to witness to Mormon missionaries. Each week, around the country, many people are sharing God's Word with them. We are confident that God's powerful word is having an effect.

If we would like to learn more, or become part of our team, please contact me at mark@tilm.org.

Mark Cares

Praise and Proclaim Ministries

website: www.praiseandproclaim.com

Staff Minister Dave Malnes

While not an officially organized WELS ministry just yet, Praise and Proclaim Ministries helps Christians and congregations in three ways:

#1 We train and equip Christians on how to confidently and joyfully proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ.

#2 We provide meaningful and well-organized opportunity to immediately put a Christian's training into action by leading a door-to-door outreach campaign for the purpose of proclaiming the gospel.

#3 We assist pastors and congregations by organizing an outreach campaign that is specifically tailored to their vision, strategy, and mission opportunities. More importantly, we equip congregations to continue to "connect and engage" with the community in the months following the campaign.

Report from a recent campaign in Redmond, WA: <http://wp.me/p7nlp-iJt>

Upcoming 2016 Campaign Schedule

June 17-18	Trinity Lutheran Church (Temple, TX)
June 24-25	Faith Lutheran Church (Tyler, TX)
July 29-30	Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (Vallejo, CA) Eternal Life Lutheran Church (Concord, CA)
August 23-24	The Vine (New Mission in Coeur d'Alene, ID)
September 8-9	Cross of Christ Lutheran Church (Coon Rapids, MN)
September 15-16	Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church (Westminster, CO)
October 14-15	New Mission (Rockwall, TX)

Cross of Christ, Boise

Pastor John Steinbrenner, Pastor Matthew Zimpelmann, Pastor Ben Workentine

Giving Thanks: To our gracious God for the opportunity to share the life-saving gospel with our community; the potential to plant a new outpost for the gospel in a neighboring community; a staff of "kingdom first" servants.

Please Pray: For God's wisdom, guidance and blessing in our long range planning discussions; that God's people do not become so comfortable with their church home and traditions that they lose their mission-mindset.

Peace In Jesus Lutheran, Boise

new website: www.peaceinjesus.net

Pastor Daniel Kramer

From April 16-21, Sylvia Falcone from Multi-Language Publications spent time in Boise to do 2 recordings for the films "Road to Emmaus" and "Come Follow Me." Scripts were handed out to the voice actors and we screened the two films at a first ever Peace In Jesus "Movie Night" on April 13th so the actors would be familiar with the films; all our families were invited to come and enjoy watching the movies and free popcorn. Then, in our own created "sound studio" onsite, a total of 20 individuals from our congregation served the voice actors for these recordings on the 16th and 17th.

We celebrated "MLC Day" with President Zarling on May 1 at Peace In Jesus--he preached and after a potluck, made a presentation about MLC to our congregation. That afternoon, Pres. Zarling met with our Executive Council to discuss the possibility of bringing students from Vietnam to study at MLC. It was a wonderful day and a blessing as we discuss global ministry more.

On June 9, there was a third teleconference to discuss bringing more students from Vietnam to study at MLC and possibly other WELS schools. The participants of these teleconferences included representatives from World Missions, MLC, JMC, and Vietnam. In addition, we are discussing the formation of a Friends of Vietnam entity, which would send individuals to teach English in Vietnam (to be modeled after Friends of China). Please pray that the Lord would give us wisdom, strength and clarity of thought as we embrace a more global ministry opportunities.