

Sunday, September 6, 2015

Theme: *Sometimes the path between us and God is circuitous, subject to detours and sudden changes of direction. God's grace follows us down whatever path life takes us, pursuing us, seeking us, reaching out to us.*

GATHERING

Welcome
Call to Worship
Prayer
Singing HWB 89 For the beauty of the earth
 HWB 55 Let's sing unto the Lord

Prayer of Confession
Words of Assurance

HEARING

Scripture Reading Mark 7:24-37
Singing HWB 26 Holy Spirit, come with power
 HWB 372 O healing river

Sermon John

RESPONDING

Congregational Sharing and Prayer
Singing HWB 368 O God of love, O power of peace
Offering
Announcements
Singing HWB 583 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah
Sending

Worship Leader: Marilyn
Song Leader: Sol
Accompanists: Sol and Pete

Prayer of Confession

God of divine wisdom and order, we like order in our lives, but we find that our order and yours are often at variance. We confess that we often do not like our agendas upset; we like to plan our days and see them unfold accordingly. We may say we are flexible until a circumstance requires us to alter or give up our expectations and plans.

We confess that we are not fond of change at any time, and we admit our desire to be in control. We confess our preference for the known way. We confess our failure simply to trust, to give ourselves to the flow of the events in our lives, believing that you are in them ahead of us and with us. Forgive us, we pray. Amen.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

- **Aberdeen Food Bank** - meets next on Sept. 19 and Oct. 3
- **Sunday, Sept. 20** – Sunday School begins, following the worship service.



Birthdays This Week: Tanner on Sept. 7 and
Leona on Sept. 10

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Sunnie is away but will be back in the office on Tues. Sept. 15. Please contact ministerial with prayer concerns (Esther 1 204 482 6375; Charlotte 204 417 8578).
- The new coffee schedule is in your mailbox. Please bring milk or cream on your designated Sunday.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Pray for those (near and far) returning to work and school this week after summer vacation.



Coffee for next week Sept. 20 - Murray and Marg
Coffee for Sept. 27 - Sunnie and Heather

Mark 7:24-37

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet.

Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.

Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

Note:

The new church directory will be coming out soon. If you would like to send birthday greetings to Tanner Gesell, his email address is Tanner.gesell@valpro.edu.