

---

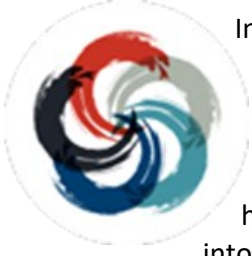
# WINDSWEEP

---

August 2021



*"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?  
I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."  
-Isaiah 43:19*



In so many ways, this is a season of transition. Some of you are transitioning kids into new schools, others are transitioning to the new reality of permanently working from home. Together, we are transitioning into our post(?) -Covid reality and rhythms for everything from how we work out, eat out, and hang out to how we worship. And, the joy in it for me, is seeing the ways that the Spirit is moving and creating anew in what seems like a wasteland of disconnection and absence. As you look through the rest of this newsletter you're going to see many ways that we are actively moving and re-gathering, but what follows is a call to join God in doing something new!

When the pandemic began, I loved all the different ways we figured out how to be church together and to create community across distance. Two features made that an alive and wonderful moment that we should not forget. First, we embraced creativity. "The way we've always done it", wasn't even a possibility. And, what emerged were life giving rhythms of intentionality in our relationships, the learning and development of new skills, and a spirit of trying new things and being ok letting them go (How many of you were in a virtual get together group that didn't last? It was good. But, it was only necessary for a season!). The second thing that happened, is that we were each forced to take ownership of our own faith. Yes, Deacon Katherine, Pr. Jeff, Michele, and others provided content packs, recorded videos, etc., but the reality was that you had to pick those materials up and engage them as individuals and families. There was no longer the ease of showing up and letting someone else "do" faith for you. I think those two changes were gifts of the Holy Spirit!

As we adapt to this new "normal" and continue to transition into who we are and who we are going to be as Spirit of Joy, we must continue to embrace those two gifts. As we yearn for the comfort and familiarity of old rhythms, we must also embrace creativity. And, as much as we marvel at the skills and abilities of our staff and leadership, we must join them as full partners in mission and ministry. So, as we head toward fall, I want to issue you a challenge that you've heard before.

**You are called, through the waters of Holy Baptism and by the continued working of the Holy Spirit, to be partners in proclaiming the gospel and living a life of discipleship. And for us to be our best selves as God intended, Spirit of Joy needs you to live into that call!**

If you want to bring back a ministry and have energy and willingness to lead, let us know! If you have always wanted something added to the culture of Spirit of Joy, consider this God knocking and saying, "Go for it!" As staff and leadership of SoJ we are tasked with equipping and encouraging each and every one of you for using the gifts God has given you to further our common mission of welcoming, growing, and sending out through passionate worship, radical hospitality, lifelong faith formation, extravagant generosity, and bold service. Help us do our job! Look up team leaders. Reach out to staff. Stop in. Call. Email. And, pray!

**God is doing something new. God is calling you!**

~ Pastor Eric Ohrtman

---

spiritofjoy.net

605-333-2004

2208 W LaQuinta St

Sioux Falls, SD 57108

# Upcoming Events



Confirmation at Spirit of Joy is a 4-year program. Class meets Wednesdays from 7-8pm. 7:00 Large Group. 7:30 Small Group. 9<sup>th</sup> graders and their mentors meet separately.

- Sept. 1: Student and Parent Orientation
- Sept. 8: Guide Training
- Sept. 15: Class begins
- Oct. 31: Confirmation Sunday**

## Save the Date!

SoJ Women's Retreat  
Nov. 12-13, 2021  
@ Joy Ranch

Details to come!



## Pastor Eric Ohrtman's Installation

Sunday, August 29 | 10:00 a.m.  
Bp. Constanze Hagmaier, presiding

One worship service at 10:00 a.m..  
Reception to follow.

## Building Dedication

Sunday, September 19

Special Music at both services  
and a Reception between services.



# Registration for Education at Spirit of Joy

Asking all partners of Spirit of Joy and guests who wish to participate this coming school year to register. We are updating contact information! Sign up online at [spiritofjoy.net/signups](http://spiritofjoy.net/signups) or scan the QR code to access the form. Please fill out one form for each child participating in an education opportunity at Spirit of Joy. **This includes Children of Joy PreK-5 Grade, 6-8 Grade Confirmation, 9 Grade Mentor Program, and 9-12 Grade Youth Group.** Volunteer Opportunities included in the form for adults to participate. Please sign up where you would like to help – We Need You!

## Please Note:

Children of Joy begins Sunday, September 12

Wednesday programming begins September 15

*Wednesday Worship, Children of Joy, Confirmation, Youth Group*



*SCAN ME*



## Blessing of Students & Backpacks

**Sunday, August 22 | Both Services**

Students of all ages are welcome to bring their backpacks to worship that day!

---

# FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Monday, August 9 | 6:30 p.m.

**Bounce House &  
Inflatable Obstacle Course**

**Mural Painting**

**Root beer  
Floats**

**Outdoor  
Worship**



BEE prepared for an awesome night of learning about the BEEatitudes and how we can be buzzing for Jesus!

# Outreach Opportunities

## Breakfast at The Banquet (900 E 8<sup>th</sup> St)

We are looking for assistance to help feed breakfast to our hungry neighbors at The Banquet on Friday, August 20. We need help at 5:30 a.m. to prepare the meal, and additional help at 6:30 a.m. to serve.

Sign up online at [spiritofjoy.net/signups](https://spiritofjoy.net/signups)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20

*The Banquet*

MAIN LOCATION | 900 E. 8TH ST  
sign up at [spiritofjoy.net/signups](https://spiritofjoy.net/signups)



## Church on the Street Saturday, August 14

Worship is always on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month at 11:00 a.m. at Heritage Park (330 N Weber Ave). Partner Congregations are encouraged to attend and get to know the people worshiping. Spirit of Joy will host in September. Details coming soon!

# From the Bishop's Desk

Dear SD Synod,

Grace and peace to you!

Is your tank full or empty these days? Many among us had thought that the Covid vaccine and summer would bring relief to our chronic state of exhaustion. But as I listen to folks across the state and across the church, I frequently hear that that is not the case. Exhaustion is still lingering in our bones. Going back to normal doesn't seem to come as readily as we had hoped. You have heard me say it many times, but I'll say it again, while we may return to normal by what meets the eye, no mask-wearing, and social events, etc, COVID has altered who we are as individuals and as communities. We all ran a mental, emotional, and physical marathon, and we need to understand that we need to recover.

I am a runner, and I know that after each long run I have to allow my body to rest. Rest is essential for my tired bones and overworked muscles to rejuvenate so that I am able to run again. Resting doesn't mean vegging out on the couch doing nothing, in fact, that kind of behavior would be counterproductive to restoring my energy and running capacity. Resting means to slow down and gently begin moving forward through mindful stretches and movement.

As we plan for fall activities with the hope that we will return to normal and go at full speed, please be mindful that your "church muscles" just emerged from running a marathon and will need gentle but disciplined movement in order to recover. I recommend that you utilize the revitalization tools we offer to slowly ease into fall. If you would like to know more, please contact Pastor Jonathan Steiner at [jsteiner@sdsynod.org](mailto:jsteiner@sdsynod.org). Be gracious with each, readiness to restart ministry is different for everyone.

Please, always remember that this is God's Church, that it is not through our own works that we are saved and beloved, but solemnly by and through the grace and mercy of God. Be patient with yourself and your neighbor and begin everything you do with some deep breaths and prayer.

Journeying together in Christ,  
Bishop Constanze





# New Spaces at Spirit of Joy

As we have returned to more robust use of the building and look forward to the start of fall programming, we thought it appropriate to provide an update on the end of construction projects and the ongoing process of “living into” our new space!

**Water lines** have been reconnected to the spigots that serve the trees along Western Ave.

Journey Group and its sub-contractors have been out to address issues with **drainage, carpet tile adhesion, and light fixtures**. Work remains underway.

**Chairs** arrived for the worship space on Friday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Thank you to all who helped unpackage and move them in place!

**Sound System** fine tuning continues. One of the wireless mics is being repaired. A proposal will be made to the Leadership Team in August to purchase additional monitors and wireless mics to reduce visual clutter on the chancel. An enormous thank you to Mark and Roxanne Berdahl for the donation of the new outdoor sound system!

**Clean up and organization** saw great progress on Tuesday, July 20<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to all who came and made that night such a tremendous success. Amy, Donna, Chad, Heather, Susan, and others continue making decisions about organization, disposal, and getting items into their new home. They'd sure appreciate your help!

**Mother's Room** is being painted and decorated. Work should be completed soon. Thank you to Amy Orr, Tracy Dahl-Webb and Bill Webb!

**Sound Abatement** in the Fellowship Hall is out for bids. We've asked both JLG Architects (in cooperation with Interstate Office Products) and Foss AVI to provide proposals. This is a high priority as we hope more of you will continue to join us throughout the fall.

During the remodel, a decision was made to make upgrades to the **indoor air quality** of the building with the addition of needlepoint bi-polar ionization (NBPI) systems on each air handling unit. These systems are installed into the ductwork of the HVAC systems. The device produces negatively and positively charged ions that attach to particles in the air enlarging them and making them easier to be captured by the filters in the air system or so heavy that they fall out of the air flow. The ions also can attach to many viruses and bacteria to deactivate them. These systems are known for eliminating unwanted odors also. NBPI systems are being installed in hospitals, schools and restaurants throughout the country anticipating that the Covid-19 virus will be another virus that can be deactivated with this treatment. This system has a 10-15-year life with no need for maintenance during that time.

# BUILDING PROJECT UPDATES



**Can you find the  
Mother's Room?**

*Hint:  
It's attached to the Fellowship Hall*

# Spirit of Joy Preschool

## Registration Notice

It's almost time for the 2021-2022 preschool year to begin and there is room for you! Registrations are being taken for children ages three to five years at this time but spots are filling. Come for a tour, call or email Miss Amy to ask questions or set up a time to visit. We are working to create a fun, safe preschool year that meets your children right where they are and nurtures their growth in a caring community with active learning and faithful hearts.



We provide:

- \* A faith-filled learning environment, incorporating Bible stories and activities into the entire day: prayer, songs, Chapel, and play time. For example, retelling the story of Jonah and the whale with by making a large fish with a table, costumes, and flannelboard sets.
- \* Outdoor Learning- We take the learning themes outside as often as possible, blessed to have a beautiful playground, gardens, and large green spaces to explore.
- \* Social Skills- learning more about ourselves and how to work together in a caring community that is teacher led. How do I feel? What can I do when this happens? Encouraging one another and practice working together.
- \* Safe, clean environment with health protocols in place including daily toy cleaning, clean air ventilation systems installed in the building, and policies guided by the CDC and SD Department of Health.
- \* Kindermusik- learning through varied styles of music and instruments that reinforces literacy and math skills.

**For more information** and to see what we are doing each week, visit [spiritofjoy.net/preschool](http://spiritofjoy.net/preschool) or [facebook.com/spiritofjoypreschool](https://facebook.com/spiritofjoypreschool).

**Contact Amy Cauble**, teacher & director at 333-2004 or [amycauble@spiritofjoypreschool.net](mailto:amycauble@spiritofjoypreschool.net).

**ALL ARE WELCOME.**

## Preschool Dates to Know

August 16, 6:15pm- Playgrounds and Popsicles

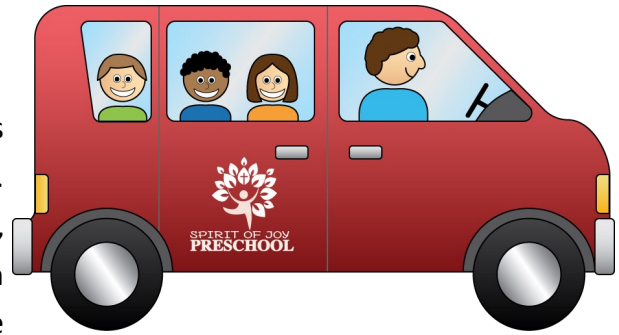
August 23, 6:15pm- Parent Information Night

September 1, 4-6pm- Preschoolers' Scavenger Hunt Open House



## Reaching Out & On the Move! Fundraiser Update

On Sunday, August 1 your preschool began its fundraising initiative to purchase a preschool van. Quality preschool education benefits are life-long, offering not only academic skills but also practice in playing cooperatively, making choices, independence and resilience for our children. However, we have phone calls each year asking for transportation due to family work schedules or geographical limitations. Children are missing the opportunity to attend preschool due to transportation. Our goal is to raise funds for a van that would provide transportation to & from preschool. This van will be used daily, providing a safe vehicle and car seats, driven by safe adults, with personalized care for each family's needs.



The fundraiser collected \$1,192- a great start toward the big goal! But your help is needed and appreciated and there are many ways to join this project:

1. Purchase a beautiful, blue t-shirt "Go Out With Joy" and proceeds from the t-shirt will go directly to the preschool. Children and adult sizes are available and orders can be placed anytime. Contact Amy Cauble for more information.
2. Offering- Allocate a donation to the preschool van fund using the tithe app or place an envelope in the offering plate with a note marked "VAN FUND". 100% of funds raised at this time will be placed toward the purchase of a van. Average cost of used van = \$25,000 plus insurance and maintenance.
3. If you or someone you know is purchasing a different car and would like to donate their current van or SUV, please contact the preschool office. We would be happy to visit with you more about this option.
4. Prayer- Prayers of discernment and guidance for the preschool and its team are appreciated.



It was a beautiful night filled with smiles, ice cream, and friends of all ages. A special THANK YOU to Larry Olson & Karol Baer for donating their time and talents to this event.

Take a look and keep watching for progress on this fundraiser.

**Thank you for supporting the children of Spirit of Joy Preschool and their families.**



The 2022 National Youth Gathering is July 24-28, 2022! Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the ELCA gather for a week of faith formation known as the Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives. The 2022 Gathering is taking place in Minneapolis, Minnesota and its theme is “Boundless”. This reminds us that we are bound by our sin, by the expectations of others, by poverty, by “isms” that try to divide us, and by so much more. In a life that often feels as if it has young people in a suffocating grip, we want them to imagine the boundlessness of God: boundless love, boundless mercy, boundless freedom, boundless creation, boundless strength. All offered from a gracious and loving God who knows and adores them. All so abundant and endless it cannot be measured. How can young people find themselves within the boundlessness of Christ’s love? We will explore this and so much more as a community during our time in Minneapolis.

If you are in high school during the 2021-2022 school year, keep an eye out for a letter arriving soon with information concerning registration, fundraising, and much more. We will have a dinner/meeting **Wednesday, September 1, 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall**. This is a meeting for ALL high school families, as we will be discussing the upcoming year, followed by a youth gathering talk. I would strongly encourage all families to stay and listen to the information about the Gathering.

Spirit of Joy Partners: Please pray for us this upcoming year. This is a fun, faith-filled adventure, but it takes a lot of planning, time, and money. You will be hearing about different events and fundraising opportunities this next year. We at Spirit of Joy have five core values: passionate worship, radical hospitality, lifelong faith formation, extravagant generosity, and bold service. I hope these values will shine through in the gifts of money, time, and prayers given to this group of people ready to be “boundless”. I am thankful for all that has been done and all that will be done for our high school youth.

God is good.

Madeline Trosvig

Coordinator of High School Faith Formation

# Spirit of Joy Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

July 15, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m.

## I. Unfinished Business

- A. **Mission Investment Fund Building Loan Principal Payment (before mortgage):** Action will be taken when notified to convert construction loan to mortgage loan. Motion by Kerri Teitgen and Sarah Manthey seconded to approve Heather Wald and Andrew Hewitt as the two individuals who have authorized online access to the MIF accounts. Motion carried.
- B. **Building Expansion Concerns—Reducing Sound in Fellowship Space:** Pastor Eric will contact Kim Ducommon and JLG Architects to discuss possible solutions. Darlene Weber Scott will be asked to write a short piece for the newsletter on the air filtration system that was installed during construction.
- C. **Building Dedication and Installation of Associate Pastor:** Pastor Eric Ohrtman's Installation as the Associate Pastor will be held on August 29, 2021. The Building Dedication will be held on September 19, 2021.

## II. New Business

### A. June & July Benevolence:

Charis Ministries (Necessities for Neighbors)	\$250 (Paid)
LSS – Partner Level Sponsorship for LSS Taste of Cultures	\$500
Lutheran Outdoors	\$1,000
Shetek Lutheran Ministries	\$1,000
ELCA World Hunger	\$1,000
Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center	\$1,000
Charis Ministries (Food to You)	\$350

## III. Meeting Review and Lord's Prayer: The meeting was adjourned following the Lord's Prayer.

Next Leadership Team Meeting is scheduled for **August 19, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.**

## Financials through June 30, 2021

### Checking Account:

General Fund	\$99,114.18
Building Fund	\$26,851.81
Donor Restricted	\$29,572.50
Sunday School	\$349.61
Reserve Fund	\$4,360.10
Petty Cash	\$200.00

### Savings Accounts:

Building	\$727,890.03
Donor Restricted	\$69,414.27
<b>Total Cash Balance</b>	<b>\$957,752.50</b>

	June 2019	June 2020	June 2021
Attendance	1001	???	???
General Offering	\$ 45,687.86	\$ 44,972.29	\$ 35,795.93
Building Offering	\$ 37,193.76	\$ 42,381.08	\$ 25,847.53

### Capital Campaign Totals

Pledged: : \$2,478,485  
 Received as of June 30, 2021: \$2,017,337.71

Year-to-date Income for Ministry	\$272,019.49
<u>Year-to-date Expenses for Ministry</u>	<u>\$267,739.84</u>
<b>Net Income/Deficit for Ministry</b>	<b>\$4,279.65</b>