

WINDSWEEP

July 2021



Summer at Spirit of Joy Family Fun Night: Hearts on Fire for Jesus

Spirit of Joy families met on June 28 to Worship, decorate kites, play yard games and enjoyed a bonfire and s'mores! Join us on July 14 for Water Olympics. More Details inside!

spiritofjoy.net

605-333-2004

2208 W LaQuinta St

Sioux Falls, SD 57108

Greetings from Pastor Eric

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus who is the Christ!

It is such a joy and privilege to be writing to you this morning. It is my first official day as a partner in mission and ministry with you and I want to take a moment to introduce myself and invite you to do the same.

I grew up in Lewiston, ID. My parents, Dr.'s Dennis and Carol were high school teachers of Spanish, English, and a number of other subjects. Dad was our church Choir Director and mom taught the Crossroads education series and served on multiple Call Committees including as Chair. Among many other things, they valued music, exposure to different people and cultures, and community involvement. I took piano and trumpet lessons growing up, sang in the church choir, and have since taught myself to play a rudimentary bass guitar. I also had the good fortune to travel with my parents across the U.S. and spent a summer living in Morelia, Mexico. They taught us service and care for others through participation in Kiwanis, Meals on Wheels, and many other civic groups.

My sisters, Dr. Lorelee and Heather, are 10 and 8 years older than I. Lorelee is the Director of Laboratories for Lewis Clark State College in my hometown and Heather teaches Family and Consumer Sciences. We all sang in choir and I played all sports growing up, but my true love was and is baseball.

I moved into Solberg Hall at Augustana on my 18th birthday. My dad's family is from northwest Iowa (Algona, Jolly, Lytton, Fort Dodge, etc) and he attended Augie in the 60's before my oldest sister, Lorelee and I decided to attend. I majored in Religion and Spanish, spending most of my time studying non-Christian religions with Dr. Murray Haar. I spent my summers working as a camp counselor at Luther Heights Bible Camp in central Idaho.

I met my wife, Krista, during first day orientation to Solberg Hall, we had our first date on Valentine's Day of our sophomore year, and got engaged a year later. We were married in her hometown, Detroit Lakes, MN, shortly after graduation and spent our "honeymoon" driving to Berkeley, CA where I attended Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary. In the 18 years that we have been married Krista and I have lived in 5 states and moved 10 times. We moved back to Sioux Falls in March of 2017 when Krista was hired as the Access Services Librarian at Augustana. Our kids, Jonah and Elsa, are 15 and 13.



My life in ministry has been mostly in smaller congregations. My first exposure to professional ministry was at Christ Lutheran Church in El Cerrito, CA. Rev. Sharon Lubkeman was an incredible mentor and encouraged me as I continued discernment during my time at the seminary. My internship was served at Cormorant Lutheran Church in rural Lake Park, MN. Rev. Lori Beck was my supervising pastor, and it was my first exposure to a larger congregation. I came to treasure shared ministry. My first call was to St. Paul Lutheran in Colville, WA. I served as the solo pastor there for 9.5 years. St. Paul taught me so much, but perhaps nothing greater than the call to public ministry. During that time, I served on City Council, on the Board of the Senior Center, and Synod Council (7 years), Synod Constitution Committee, was the co-founder of a PFLAG chapter, a Warming Shelter, and a HUD 202 Senior Housing Project. I coached 18 youth sports teams and eventually became the Commissioner of Kiwanis Youth Baseball for the area. St. Paul embraced my participation and welcomed the community into their community and facility in a way that transformed their mission and ministry, as well as their membership. Most recently, I served as the solo pastor for just over 4 years at Messiah New Hope Lutheran here in Sioux Falls. While I continued to serve the larger church on the Synod Assembly Planning Team, the Synod Constitution Committee,

and the Synod Hunger Grant Review Team, much of our work together was spent in stabilizing their community and doing the hard work of investing in their infrastructure while reducing their debt. It is a beautiful little congregation, and I will forever pray for them.

I am very much looking forward to the transition into this next phase of my life in ministry with you at Spirit of Joy. Already, I have been energized by working with Pr. Jeff, Heather, Ron, and all of the rest of the staff and Leadership Team. I can not wait to dig in to Creating a Culture of Calling and to live into the 5 Priorities with you. I am excited to get to know each of you and to discover your passions, your visions, and your desires for who we can be together as SoJ. And, it's on that note, that I end. Please join us at the meet and greet events this month. Reach out to me to schedule a visit. I like coffee, most adult beverages, lunch and a relaxed dinner, visits to your home, and visits in my office. I understand my first and most significant task to be getting to know you as individuals, and as a whole. So, thank you, for calling me to be a partner with you. Thank you for taking the lead in getting to know each other. And, thank you for being a part of Spirit of Joy.

~ Rev. Eric Ohrtman



Outreach Opportunities



26th Annual Taste of Cultures Event

This year Lutheran Social Services created a weeklong virtual campaign from June 20-29 rather than an in person event. LSS is expecting a 100% increase in new arrivals this year and are in need of as much public support as possible. The Outreach Team at Spirit of Joy has joined LSS as a Partner in the Taste of Cultures event by donating \$500.

Strengthening Individuals,
Families & Communities

Contact Kendra Krueger at 701-799-0158 with any questions.

FOOD TO YOU

JULY 22

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
1912 W 13ST ST**



FOOD OF THE MONTH
**MACARONI &
CHEESE**

Sign up: spiritofjoy.net/signups



Outreach Opportunities

Horace Mann Elementary School Wish List

Spirit of Joy has partnered with Horace Mann Elementary school since 2018. This school focuses on working with students who struggle behaviorally and uses the Boys Town Model.

According to Principal Tara Eckstaine, "Horace Mann is part of the journey, not the destination. Attending their home school is the ultimate goal we have for all students at Horace Mann! We are seeing more students reintegrate back to their home schools and we couldn't be prouder."

The Outreach Team asked staff for a list of items they use with students in their classroom and will be collecting the items during the month of July. The items can be new or gently used. Please drop off the items at Spirit of Joy by Sunday, August 1st. Thank you!



- * Stickers
- * Scented Markers
- * Small Superhero figurines
- * Small action figurines
- * Sugar Free Gum (double bubble, bubble gum, mint or fruity flavors)
- * Candy or Hard Candy
- * Small dinosaur figurines
- * Bouncy Balls
- * Play doh
- * Legos
- * Mini lego sets
- * Colorful Pens
- * Toy Cars
- * Magna tiles
- * Uno attack game
- * Perler beads
- * Perler bead templates
- * Uno Attack Game
- * Fun pencils
- * Small toys(Shopkins, bakugons, dolls, etc.)
- * Kinetic sand
- * Water bottle stickers
- * Character erasers
- * Pop-It Fidgets
- * Pokemon cards
- * Minecraft toys
- * Beyblades
- * Puzzles
- * Mini containers of slime
- * Kinder Joys
- * Card or board games



Spirit of Joy Preschool

Preschool Openings

Classes are filling, and we would love to see you here. Invite your neighbors and colleagues. Visit our Facebook page and webpage to learn more about the program. Tours are available, call Amy Cauble to schedule a time.



facebook.com/spiritofjoypreschool



spiritofjoy.net/preschool

Reaching Out & On the Move Picnic & Fundraiser

Sunday, August 1 ** 6:00 p.m. ** Spirit of Joy Gardens

Your preschool is reaching out and removing barriers for new friends to join Spirit of Joy Preschool. We are raising funds to acquire a preschool van at the Neighborhood Picnic & Fundraiser featuring Dakota Road's Larry Olson & Karol Baer. Fun activities for all ages- ice cream, t-shirts, face painting, Book Mobile & more! **All are welcome-** share this event with your family and friends! We can't wait to see you here.



Family Picnic & Concert

Sunday, August 1, 6:00 p.m.
Music provided by Larry Olson and
Karol Baer from Dakota Road

**Funds raised
will go toward a
preschool van**

Ice cream, T-Shirts, Face Painting, Book
Mobile & more!
Preschool Tours are offered too!

Bring a blanket and a picnic supper

JULY FAMILY FUN NIGHT

WATER OLYMPICS

FREEZE
POPS

RELAY
RACES

DUNK
TANK

Water
Worship

Yard
Games

July 14th | 6:30 PM | Back Patio

Bulletin Board

Drivers Wanted

Do you have an hour out of your day to drive someone to or pick up someone from Dialysis, Chemotherapy, Therapy, Dr. Appointment? It could mean the difference between someone getting to an appointment or missing an appointment.



The Active Generations organization is looking for volunteers for the Workers on Wheels (WOW) program. Services are provided at no charge by volunteers who donate their time and talents to enable their clients to continue living independently in their homes.

For more information contact:

Workers on Wheels
605-333-3317
wow@activegen.org



Volunteer at The Banquet

The success of The Banquet in feeding and encountering our guests is due solely to the kindness extended by our volunteers. On July 1 we will return to full service at The Banquet Downtown and The Banquet West. We look forward to seeing new volunteers join with our current volunteers. Everyday we need nearly 100 volunteers to prepare and serve the meals to our guests. Please to thebanquetsf.org/serve-a-meal or call Brian at 335-7066 for more information. Please keep us in your prayers!



Summer Sunday Servants

Three ways to sign up to help during the summer months at Spirit of Joy. If you can help us just once every 4-6 weeks with any of the following responsibilities it will help us in our welcome and worship—two of our **KEY core values**.

1. Sign up on the clipboards on Sunday (found in the gathering space)
2. Contact Heather at church: info@spiritofjoy.net or 333-2004
3. Sign up online (click below for the schedule to each responsibility)

[Outdoor Worship Setup](#)

[Greeters](#)

[Communion Assistants](#)

Many Thanks!

Thank you so much for the scholarship! I appreciate your kindness and generosity. I appreciate your support as I start my new (and continued) journey of faith to Augustana!

Anna Von Wald, 2021 Graduate
Spirit of Joy Scholarship Recipient

Thank you for the \$1,000 gift given to your synod, received by ELCA World Hunger in April 2021. Your generosity is getting at the root causes of hunger and poverty in over 60 countries including the United States. It is providing access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock, education, and peace and justice. Through your gifts, you are joining with the whole church as we work toward a just world where all are fed.

The Rev. Robin Brown
Director, Congregational Mission Funding

Thank you for the \$315 charitable contribution you have made to the Sioux Falls School District. On behalf of the students and staff of the Sioux Falls School District, we appreciate your generosity. Wonderful people like you make our schools and community a better place and your donation will help us to fulfill our mission. "To educate and prepare each student to succeed in a changing world."

Tara Eckstaine
Principal, Horace Mann Elementary



Financials through May 31, 2021

Checking Account:

General Fund	\$106,498.44
Building Fund	\$142,304.57
Donor Restricted	\$27,827.84
Sunday School	\$344.36
Reserve Fund	\$4,360.10
Petty Cash	\$200.00

Savings Accounts:

Building	\$604,748.75
<u>Donor Restricted</u>	<u>\$69,443.71</u>
Total Cash Balance	\$955,727.77

	May 2019	May 2020	May 2021
Attendance	1342	???	???
General Offering	\$ 44,008.21	\$ 49,164.37	\$ 49,643.46
Building Offering	\$ 78,371.64	\$ 28,314.95	\$ 142,491.96

Capital Campaign Totals

Pledged: : \$2,478,485
Received as of May 31, 2021: \$1,991,490.18

Year-to-date Income for Ministry	\$236,000.10
<u>Year-to-date Expenses for Ministry</u>	<u>\$224,133.58</u>
Net Income/Deficit for Ministry	\$11,866.52

*Leadership Team did not meet in June.
The next meeting is scheduled for
July 15, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.*