

WIND SWEEP

Monthly Newsletter

June 2025

"Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest." -Mark 6:31b



Jesus made a regular practice of rest and prayer. At least six times and some commentators say as many as nine times, he sought solitude and restoration. It should serve as a healthy reminder to care for ourselves and those around us by seeking sabbath renewal. So, I hope you'll enjoy the lake this summer. I expect to see you in a lawn chair at The Levitt at the Falls. And, I hope you find respite in the Black Hills or the Boundary Waters.

You'll notice a slower pace for Spirit of Joy this summer. Your staff is tired and looks forward to its own renewal and restoration. Hours will be more sporadic. Leave a message. Try again. We'll get to you. And, if it's a pastoral care concern it will be quick!

Faith Formation will take its usual summer break. We're also committed to doing less during the summer in anticipation of a wonderful fall (Bible in a Year, the return of Brewed Theology, Books that Matter, Women's Bible Study, Women's Retreat, and more!). Do join us when we gather: Sundays at 9:30 (except July 6—that's an outdoor worship service at 7pm), Family Fun Nights on June 18, July 16, and August 6, we'll spend an evening playing together at Vinyl Taco, and we'll be together at The Levitt.

As far as worship goes, we have a few extra special days.

- There a lot of baptisms this summer!
- June 8th is Pentecost Sunday with congregation participation and a lot of connections for children and families.
- June 15th we'll celebrate Trinity Sunday using the Athanasian Creed.
- June 22nd we begin our summer sermon series and walking challenge, "Journey to Jerusalem"
- July 6 is outdoor worship at 7pm (no morning worship)
- July 20 we welcome singer/songwriter Sara Thomsen
- And, August 24 we begin looking forward to fall with "Blessing of the Backpacks"

If you're not here, rest without guilt! If you are away and want to jump into worship online check your weekly email, find us on YouTube, or click in the app. And, as always, there will be a place for you when you're ready!





Journey to Jerusalem

Summer Sermon Series & Walking Challenge for Spirit of Joy

Beginning Sunday, June 22nd we will be studying Luke 9:51 through 19:40. Often called the Lukan “Travel Narrative” it covers Jesus’ journey from Galilee to his triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Get in the habit of bringing your Bible and a pencil. There will be notes and encouragement to dig deeper every week.

We will also be working together as a congregation to “walk” to Jerusalem. 6409 miles. OR, **12,818,000 steps!** Get your watch, phone, or pedometer on. Then, submit your steps at spiritofjoy.net/signups (coming soon!) before every Saturday so that we can update our progress for Sunday morning worship and social media each week!

06/22/2025	Luke 9: 51-62
06/29/2025	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
07/06/2025	Luke 10:25-37
07/13/2025	Luke 10:38-11:13
07/20/2025	Luke 12: 13-21, 32-40
07/27/2025	Luke 13:10-17
08/03/2025	Luke 15:1-10
08/10/2025	Luke 17: 5-10
08/17/2025	Luke 17: 11-19
08/24/2025	Luke 18: 1-8, 19: 1-10
08/31/2025	Luke 19:28-40



Family Fun Night

Wednesday, June 18 | 6:30-8:00 PM

**GOD GIVES
US HOPE!**

* Camp-Style Worship *

* Yard Games *

* S'Mores * Craft *

Hope Haven Service Project

Bring a fidget toy to donate for Hope Haven's distribution in Costa Rica

Spirit of Joy Quilters

Are you interested in learning more about the quilting ministry at Spirit of Joy? Join us in the library after worship on Sunday, June 1st.

Summer quilting times are:

Wednesday, June 4, 9-12

Wednesday, July 2, 9-12

Wednesday, August 6, 9-12



SEEKING A SECOND PASTOR

Spirit of Joy welcomed Associate to the Bishop, Rev. Renee Splichal Larson to lead our Ministry Site Study on Sunday, May 18th at 10:30am. Call Committee Chairperson, Mindy Dold welcomed those in attendance and introduced Rev. Bob Chell who offered that morning's opening prayer. She then brought forward Pr. Renee. After introducing herself and bringing greetings from Bishop Constanze Hagmaier, Pr. Renee walked through the Call Process, detailing some of the work we've undertaken as a congregation. She then moved to reviewing the draft Ministry Site Profile submitted to her by the Call Committee. She shared that they had done excellent work and along the way offered just a few suggestions for editing prior to final submission.

The congregation asked a few questions before she returned to detailing the process to come. The Call Committee will begin receiving candidates any day. They will work to schedule interviews. If a candidate is recommended by the Committee, that recommendation will be passed to the Leadership Team. From there, Leadership will work to schedule next steps for the candidate including a congregation meet and greet, compensation negotiation, and a meeting of the congregation to consider and vote on their recommendation (requires two weeks notice). If the congregation votes to call a candidate, they then have 30 days to consider. After that moving and Installation will be scheduled.

Once she was done detailing the remaining process she had a few reminders: 1. Candidate confidentiality is crucial. 2. The fastest timeline from this point is approximately 3 months. 3. The Holy Spirit has been and will be present in this process!

Before departing she pointed out Candidate Nomination Forms to be returned to Mindy Dold. One nomination was received.

On Monday, May 19th the Call Committee finalized the Ministry Site Profile and submitted it to Pr. Renee and Bishop Hagmaier.



SPIRIT OF JOY
HYMN DRAW

Submit all summer & sing SoJ's favorite hymns in worship the following Sundays:
6/22 ♪ **6/29** ♪ **7/20** ♪ **7/27** ♪ **8/3** ♪ **8/17**

Summer 2025: SoJ Hymn Draw

This summer we're letting YOU choose the hymns. Beginning Sunday, June 15, you'll be able to write down your favorites and add to the bowl. On the dates listed below, the children's message will include drawing 6 hymns to be sung that morning during worship! Look for the display table in the Gathering Space. You can submit all summer.

SOJ'S POP-UP CHOIR

SUNDAY, JUNE 29

REHEARSE @ 8AM

SING @ 9:30 SERVICE

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Spirit of Joy does not provide any tax, legal or investment advice, but confidential & anonymous gift planning services are available to all partners at minimal or no cost/obligation through Lutheran Planned Generosity of SD, a ministry of the SD Synod. Kathy McHenry, Executive Director, would be happy to assist with any questions & can be reached at (605) 274-5030.

Mission Endowment Fund Balance



For more information on Mission Endowment Fund, visit:
spiritofjoy.net/mission-endowment-fund-2

Creation Care Corner

Summer is a time for relaxation and play for many of us. Do you know who works hard in the summer? Pollinators do, that's who. Bees, butterflies, birds, moths, and beetles are among those hard at work. Flies also act as pollinators. Even bats get in on the action, although not so much in our area as other regions of the country. In fact, some scientists approximate that 1 out of every 3 bites of food we eat is because of pollinators doing their jobs.

How does pollination even work? These pollinating creatures end up visiting flowers while in search of food, like nectar and pollen, or in search of nest or shelter building materials. While visiting a flower or plant, they accidentally brush up against the flower's reproductive parts. When this happens, they unknowingly deposit pollen from flower to flower as they flit along. In turn, the plant uses the deposited pollen to produce a seed or fruit.

Some plants are self-pollinating and others can be fertilized by wind or water carrying pollen to them.

You may have heard that bees are disappearing. This is a problem because many plants are incapable of reproducing if pollen isn't carried to them by roaming pollinators. Remembering that 1 in 3 bites of food exist because of pollinators doing their thing, we can see why we need to

PROTECT THE POLLINATORS 

How can we help? Invite pollinators into your space this summer. Plant native plants. Some quick examples of perennials include prairie violet, Sweet William, foxglove beardtongue, showy beardtongue, bee balm (Monarda), butterfly weed, milkweed (there are many types of milkweed but avoid tropical milkweed), prairie clover, purple coneflower, aromatic/heath/smooth blue aster, and dotted gayfeather to name a few. You also want to make sure something is blooming at all times up until frost.

Some annuals for your pots and flower beds include salvia, sweet alyssum, lantana, and petunias. These are just some ideas to get you started. You do want a diversity of plants. You can even plant some herbs such as rosemary, oregano, and basil. Allowing unharvested flowers and plants to bolt provides more food to the pollinators as well.

Additionally, one of the best things you can do is to eliminate or limit the use of pesticides. If you need to use one, look for organic pesticides approved by the USDA National Organic Program.

Enjoy some time in the great outdoors and see how many bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds you attract this summer.



Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so.



BOLD SERVICE MINISTRY PARTNERS

PARTNERS

BANQUET

**BRIDGES AT HORACE MANN—WE
FUNCTION A BIT LIKE A PARENT
TEACHER ORG**

**CAMP SUPPORT—SHETEK, LUTHERAN
OUTDOORS, AND SUPPORT A CAMP
COUNSELOR**

**CHARIS MINISTRIES—EVENTS LIKE
NECESSITIES FOR NEIGHBORS AND
FOOD TO YOU**

**CHURCH ON THE STREET—CANDY
PACKING FOR SERVICES, SERVE AT A
CHURCH SERVICE, LAUNDRY WITH
LOVE**

**LIBERIA PROJECT—BUILDING A
SCHOOL**

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF
NICARAGUA/ILFA**

**LUTHERAN SOCIAL
SERVICES/CENTER FOR NEW
AMERICANS**

ST. DYSMAS CONGREGATION

**OTHER MISSIONS WE SUPPORT ON A
MORE LIMITED BASIS—HOPE HAVEN,
SEMINARIANS, SHEPHERD’S TABLE,
EMERGENCY NEEDS**

BOLD SERVICE APPRECIATION

At Spirit of Joy, the Bold Service team celebrates our ministry partners’ unwavering commitment to service. They inspire us to live out our faith with compassion and action. Our ministry partners’ acts of service are a testament to the power of love and community, and we are honored to recognize and support their mission.

Odds & Ends ...

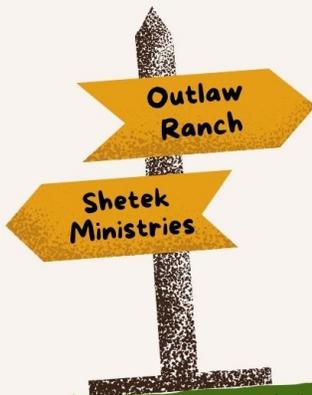


Adopt a Camp Staff

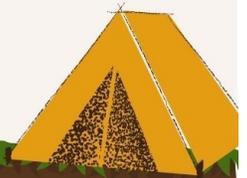


Are you interested in helping to:

1. Pray for the camp staff
2. Send at least two physical pieces of mail
3. Create a care package (details coming soon)



Sign up at spiritofjoy.net



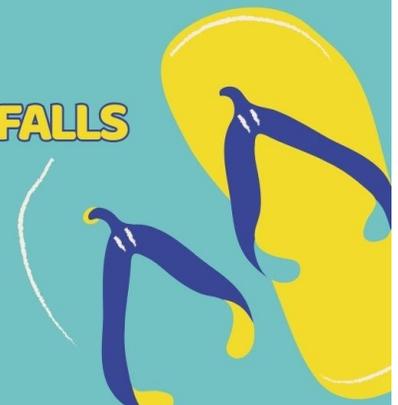
SUMMER AT SOJ

JOIN US AT ALL OF OUR HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS!

WEDNESDAY THE 4TH
CAMPFIRE AT SOJ @ 8PM

SATURDAY THE 14TH
CULTURE FESTIVAL @ LEVITT AT THE FALLS

WEDNESDAY THE 25TH
CAMPFIRE AT SOJ @ 8PM





Spirit of Joy Preschool

Caring Community, Active Learning and Faithful Hearts

"Scoop Up the Joy at SOJ" Yard Sign Fundraiser June 1-30, 2025

Share a little summer fun with friends, neighbors, & family & support your preschool at the same time. Visit the Spirit of Joy sign-ups webpage to send fun Spirit of Joy signs, cost is \$30-35 to send. (Or complete a form in the Gathering Space). The SOJ Ice Cream team will deliver signs & relocate after 1-2 days. A great kick-off to summer!!



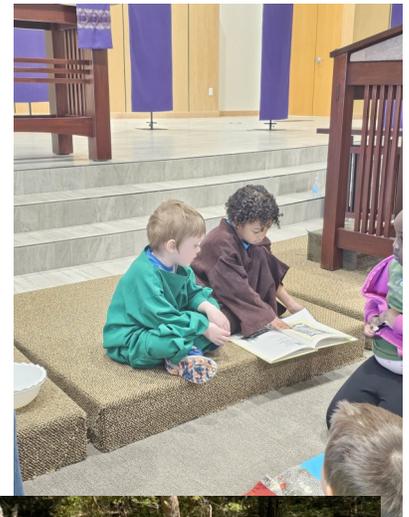
Don't want to get signed? Buy \$50 insurance to stop the signs... send them to someone else instead. Insurance forms can also be located online or in the Gathering Space. 100% of the proceeds benefit preschool operating costs. Scoop up a little summer fun in your neighborhood & support your preschool!!

Sign up online: spiritofjoy.net/signups

Fall 2025 Registration continues...do you know someone age 3-5 years old who loves to learn? **All are welcome to enroll.** Invite them or visit today and experience the love of God, the love of learning and the love of friends in the next school year. Classes meet 2-4 days per week 8am-12ppm. We are preparing for you- call Amy to learn more about the program or schedule a tour. **Scholarships, sibling discounts, and van services are available.

THANK YOU!

We would like to thank our many Spirit of Joy Partner volunteers who shared their time and kind hearts with the preschool: van drivers, guest book readers, classroom helpers, hobby teachers, prayerful companions, and more. Thank you for modeling service and faithful hearts to our children.



The 2024-2025 preschool year is a wrap and boy was it fun! A few memories from the year include: playground events, special guest Chapel leaders like Deuteronomy Duck & Miss Mary, performing Bible story skits, Veteran's Day visitors, baking delicious cookies with Miss Donna & Miss Kathy, library puppet show with Mr. Derris & supportive parents, and lots of friendships! Oh yes, and discovering our world with over thirty learning themes and Bible stories.

