

WIND SWEEP

Monthly Newsletter

May 2023



Eric Ohrtman

Pastor

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

We continue in the season of Easter. It began with the breathing of the Holy Spirit in the Gospel of John and will continue until Pentecost Sunday on May 28th. Through the season we have been praying, "Come, Holy Spirit." Slowly, we have woven more of that language into our liturgy and conversations as we move from the joy of the resurrected Christ to the ongoing movement of the Holy Spirit.

Initially, that movement was small. Christ's words were to go and baptize, make disciples, everywhere. Instead, hidden and scared, disciples and new converts gathered in homes and synagogues to share their experiences of the resurrected Christ. As time wore on and those who had experienced Jesus joined him in the resurrection the Spirit got to work. Communities developed their own rhythms and spaces to meet. Leadership structures were put into place. Doctrine and theology was developed. The state got involved and so did reformers, at first it was monks and nuns settled into lives of mystery and prayer removed from the need to be supported by far flung judicatories who named the straying and failings of the church. Finally, a German professor and monk was joined by a prince and a cadre of powerful colleagues across the Holy Roman Empire. His writing, the prince's power and political ability, and the other's influence changed all that had come before. And still the Spirit moved. Through the horrors of colonialism and the power of European empires, the Spirit worked. Church and nation began to separate, first slowly, then rapidly. Leaders like Muhlenberg, Walther, and Tindall shaped a new way of being church that flipped the power structures upside down. No longer would local congregations be dictated to by a distant office, now the local congregation would shape and lead those offices. A spark ignited and the Spirit blew. Then leaders like King, Graham, Tutu, and Theresa began to show the world that our faith must be love for the least of these, willing not just to worship the one who died on the cross, but to pick up our own, willing to give our lives like His. And the Spirit roared.

Today, that movement looks like Spirit of Joy. As you serve at St. Dysmas and Church on the Street, you stand with those who went before. When you step up for our planet and our neighbors you proclaim your faith out loud. When you use your influence as blessing, you make disciples. When you practice our values, you answer the call of the Spirit first received on the day of Pentecost. Come, Holy Spirit to Spirit of Joy... and to the world.

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

~ John 20: 21-22



Join us for Worship

MAY

SUNDAY MORNINGS

8:45 & 11:00 AM Worship, 10:00 AM Faith Formation

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

6:15 PM Worship,
7:00 PM Faith Formation

May 7: Teacher Appreciation, New Partner Sunday, Last day for Children of Joy

Sunday Forum: The ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM)

Learn more about this program and hear stories from past volunteers!

Wednesday, May 10th & Sunday, May 14th: Class of 2023 Graduation Milestone

Seniors are asked to attend one of these services to receive a blessing and gift.

There will be donuts and fruit between services on Sunday.

May 14: Mother's Day, Guest Preacher, Rev. Heidi Kvanli

Join us for a special liturgy celebrating all women and receive a token of our appreciation for you!

Sunday Forum: Biblical Stewardship Session III with Sam Eisele

May 21: Last Day of Fall/Winter Schedule

Sunday Forum: Biblical Stewardship Session IV with Josh Swanstrom

May 28: Pentecost Sunday—Wear Red!

Summer Schedule Begins:

8:30 & 10:00 AM Worship Services



Outreach Opportunities



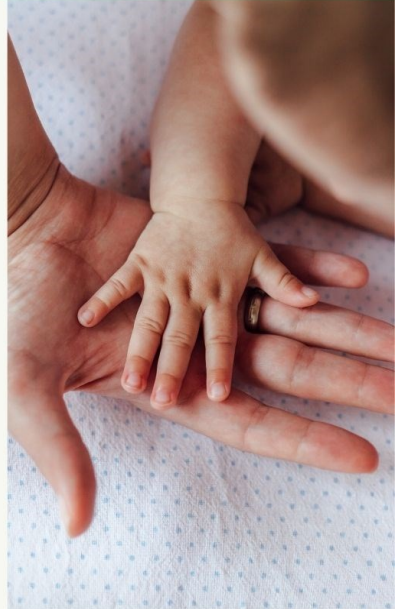
CHARIS MINISTRY PARTNERS SIOUX FALLS, SD



NECESSITIES FOR NEIGHBORS

PROVIDES HELP WITH HOUSEHOLD ITEMS NOT COVERED BY SNAP.

Sunday, June 4 | Peace Lutheran Church
1:30 - 4:30 p.m. | Sign up: spiritofjoy.net/signups



DIAPER DRIVE

BRING DONATIONS THROUGH THE MONTH OF MAY

Donations may be placed on the table in the sanctuary and will be delivered to Peace Lutheran on June 4.

Spirit of Joy Prayer Chain

Introducing the SoJ Prayer Chain. Email based communication asking us to pray for our neighbors.

Confidential.
Respectful.

Sign Up
Today



spiritofjoy.net/signups



Faith Formation



Joyful Morning Yoga: 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 10:30am

Women's Bible Study: Thursday 9am & 4pm

Topic: "The Greatest Story" Bible Introduction. Bring a friend - all are welcome!

Women's Social Gathering: Monday, May 1 at 7pm

Women's Rotational In-Home Fellowship: We meet once a month for devotion and fellowship. Please contact Suzanne DeBoom and Deb Stapelman with questions

- Monday, May 8, 5:30pm, location TBD
- Tuesday, May 9, 9:00am, location TBD

Men's Rotational In-Home Fellowship: Get to know each other better through devotion, prayer, and a time of fellowship. Date and time TBD. Sign up online if you would like to join a rotational small group: spiritofjoy.net/signups

Save the Date: Retirement Milestone, Sunday, July 16, more to come!

Fifth Grade Finale

We are celebrating our fifth graders as they wrap up their elementary education and prepare to move on to middle school. This is a huge milestone in their lives of school and in their church life as they will enter confirmation in the fall. Parents and children will gather on Wednesday, May 10 at 7 pm. Please keep these children (and their parents) in your prayers as they have big changes on the horizon!

Brady Beirman

Jack Blau

Zoey Eining

Elliott Fickbohm

Evelyn Gibson

Evan Haddican

Adam Mark

Elijah Nelson

Jaci Hunter

Reece Pixler

Max Rowe

Sid Rowe

Haley Syverson

Kendall Yungbluth

Taylor Yungbluth

Upcoming Events

**SOJ @ THE
BIRDCAGE**

CANARIES VS RAILCATS

Friday, June 2 | 6:35 pm | Tickets: \$13 (Promo Code: Joy)


**Fireworks after
the game!**



Promo Code: Joy



SHETEK

LUTHERAN MINISTRIES

\$50 to SoJ.

Sign up at spiritofjoy.net/signups



Lunch and Prizes!

The Slayton Country Club

<https://www.slaytoncountry.club>

Support Shetek and have fun!

Monday, June 19, 2023

Depart from SoJ @ 6:30am

Registration & putting contest @ 8:30am

Tee off @ 9am

4 person scramble

All are welcome!

Staff Feature

Tell us a little about your background!

I grew up in North Dakota, aka God's country. We moved to Sioux Falls right before my junior year of high school. So I graduated from old Washington High and then was off to Augustana College (now University) – gosh... I sound old! I spent nine summers working at ELCA Bible Camps – Camp Metigoshe on the North Dakota/Canada border and Klein Ranch, a Lutherans Outdoors camp. After working at Augie for 11 years I landed at First Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls working with youth and families. I'm so happy to now be at Spirit of Joy! My husband Jeff is a pastor with St. Dysmas, the prison congregation. We have two boys, Harrison (24) who just graduated from Montana State University and is a wildland firefighter and Finnigan (16), a junior at Lincoln High School – they are pretty cool, I often refer to them as the #fabulousbackerboys!

What would constitute a “perfect” day for you?

I would love the longed for 72 degree, sunny, low humidity and a light breeze unicorn of a day in South Dakota – sitting outside with friends having a cold drink and maybe a charcuterie board with lots of conversation and laughter – and some good music in the background.

If you could win an Olympic medal for any sport, real or fake, what would it be?

Athleticism is not exactly my strong suit – but I love the Olympics – summer and winter! Summer Olympics would be tennis and I would love to be brave enough for downhill skiing or snowboarding – they are amazing!

Guilty Pleasure Movie/Television Show

We had to get a subscription to Apple TV just to watch Ted Lasso – the first two seasons were amazing (I'd be happy to visit with folks about what is happening in season three!). Apple TV also led us to Shrinking – brilliant.

What is one of your favorite hymns/Christian songs?

Oh dear... this is a very difficult question. Ok, just so we're clear it's “one of” because there are many...but I'll go with Beautiful Savior, a classic. As an alto, I love singing the harmony! And back in my Augie choir days, we sang it in every concert – it is burned on my brain.



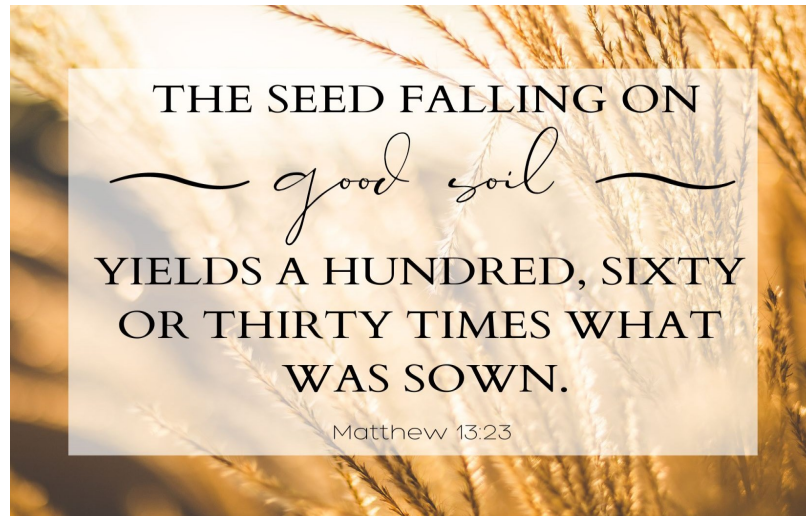
Marnie Dahle Backer

Director of Next Generation Ministries

Marnie.spiritofjoy@gmail.com



Creation Care Corner



Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your Word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is understood. ELW #512

It's gardening season!! Time for planting, sowing, and reaping flowers, vegetables, grasses, trees – all good living things which sustain our earthly bodies.

Did you know that soil is a source of life and is filled with living things? In fact, scientists sometimes refer to soil as “earth’s living skin.” Soil helps to produce our food, filter and purify water, reduce flooding, and helps regulate the atmosphere as it plays a role with carbon and nitrogen cycles. Soil is actually a carbon “sink” as it can capture and store carbon, as long as the soil has not been depleted of its organic matter.

Did you know that you can use compost to build healthier soil, inhibit soil erosion, lower water usage, and enhance plant growth and yield? You can also sprinkle it on your lawn or amend the soil of your houseplants with it. Further, when you compost you are decreasing the volume that ends up in the landfill. Food waste, leaves, yard clippings, grass, clippings and other items typically get buried under massive

amounts of other trash in a landfill, which results in methane gas being released into the atmosphere. If we instead take our food waste and other materials to make compost, we reduce the amount of methane gas being produced and we make healthier soil in the long run, which has many benefits to us and the environment.

We have a wonderful opportunity to “be good soil” and make good soil as a drop-off site with SoDak Compost. Please visit their website at <https://www.sodakcompost.org/> to learn more about this fantastic organization and why this is so essential to our work as Lutherans Restoring Creation.

We are a state made up of neighbors and communities who recognize the value of farmers. We are thankful for farmers and their families and the work that they do. Ask a farmer in your family or community if they practice Conservation Agriculture and/or Regenerative Agriculture.

Awake, O north wind, and come, O south wind! Blow upon my garden, let its spices flow.

Let my beloved come to his garden, and eat its choicest fruits.” Song of Solomon 4:16



Spirit of Joy Preschool

Come Join the Preschool Community!

Preschool Registrations and tours offered throughout the summer months as classes are available. Contact Amy Cauble, Preschool Director, to schedule a tour or ask questions. We would love to see you here!

Visit the website or Facebook page for more information and to see daily activities.
spiritofjoy.net/preschool or facebook.com/spiritofjoypreschool

Remembering Our Baptism

Preschool children attend a weekly Chapel time for storytelling, songs, prayer and a blessing at the baptismal font. In the beginning of the year, there are uncertainties for many. Chapel time is a new concept, a new room for some and it is so very large. However, as the year goes by, the Chapel Time routine becomes special and important. "Miss Amy, is it Chapel Day today?" If my answer is "yes" I receive an excited "oh good!" Or "Yes!" in return.

There is an urgency to get to the back of the sanctuary for a blessing at the end of the story. One child told me recently, "I really want a blessing."

Recently, I was blessed to see the impact of these weekly meetings. On the



preschool playground, there is a small table to add water or sand for play. On this day, the table had been filled with water. Many children were joyfully running around. I noticed a student near the water. The child was splashing but then stopped, dipped a finger in the water and made the sign of the cross on the forehead- just like the blessing at Chapel. This ritual had become familiar and important. It was remembered in a new time and place...that is good news! Thank you to the many Chapel leaders that have

helped us remember we are all children of God. Don't be surprised if you see a few preschoolers at church dipping their fingers in the font on a Sunday morning.





You Are Invited to the Yearend Preschool Program!

May 18 & 19 10:45 AM | Shalom Center

Enjoy preschool music, graduating words of wisdom, and treats!

It will be a joyful celebration— All Are Welcome.

No RSVP required.

congratulations



Farewell and Godspeed

Madeline Trosvig

Coordinator of High School Faith Formation

Wednesday, May 10th & Sunday, May 14th

Madeline has been accepted into Young Adults in Global Mission, a ministry of the ELCA. Join us as we pray for her, offer her blessing, and wish her well wherever the Spirit moves her!

Congratulations to our Spirit of Joy Scholarship Recipients!

Each year, Spirit of Joy offers a scholarship to the graduating seniors. To receive this scholarship, high schoolers submit a reflection on their faith journey and how they plan to use their faith in college. This year we have six recipients: Bell Creviston, parents Paul and Amanda Creviston; Jack Detert, parents Kris Detert and Mike Detert; Gabrielle Ahrendt, parents Jason and Heather Ahrendt; Madelyn Eisenbeisz, parents Amy and Ryan Eisenbeisz; Carter Ballew, parents Corey and Kelly Ballew; and Collin Ballew, parents Corey and Kelly Ballew. They will be recognized at the senior milestone on May 10 and May 14. Congratulations!

The ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission

Young adults ages 21-29 are invited into a transformative, year-long journey in international service. As they offer themselves in service, the young adults are shaped by the witness of our global neighbors. They share in the journeys of companion churches and organizations in one of nine countries around the world. This year we have two young adults from our congregation headed to the ELCA's YAGM program: Karl Norquist and Madeline Trosvig. Karl will be placed in Senegal and Madeline will be placed in Hungary. Learn more on Sunday, May 7 during Sunday Forum.

Spirit of Joy Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

April 20 @ 6:30 p.m. at Spirit of Joy

I. Unfinished Business:

A. None

II. New Business

A. **Purchase of Van/Transportation Solution:** Discussed funding to purchase another van and explored solutions for providing transportation for preschool students, elders needing transportation to attend worship services, and for other youth and adult needs. Will continue to investigate solutions. No other action taken.

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

*Next Leadership Team Meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, May 18 at 6:30pm at Spirit of Joy.***



2022-2025 Campaign Goal: \$1.25 million

Total pledged: \$678,770

Total Received (March 31): \$313,428

Moving towards a debt-free future in mission and ministry...together!

Year One is drawing to a close. Make your donation today!

Partners Receiving Tithe Gifts

Church on the Street

The Banquet

Lutherans Outdoors South Dakota

Charis Ministries

ELCA World Hunger

Haven't pledged or contributed? It's not too late!

Contact Heather in the Church Office for a Pledge Card, or simply direct a donation with the memo line, "Overflowing!"

Odds & Ends

Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota Adult Travel

HOLDEN VILLAGE July 27 – August 6, 2023

Registration is open.

Register by calling 605-274-5326.

Cost: \$1,699 (Double Occupancy)

\$2,150 (Single Occupancy)

A \$300 Deposit is due to reserve your space. So far, 8

Spirit of Joy partners are registered. **Join us!**



Introducing a new book club:
Books that Matter

"Prayer" by Timothy Keller

Monday, June 5 • 9am or 7pm at SoJ

Limited copies available: \$15

Or, at all major retailers.

Led by Pr. Eric
Donuts and coffee provided.

Financial Peace University

Thursdays, 7PM June 1 - July 27

Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church

Have you been looking for a way to finally get on top of your money? This. Is. Your. Time. Take control of your money with *Financial Peace University*! This nine-week class uses biblical wisdom and common sense to help you tackle budgeting, pay off debt, and make your money work for you!

Questions?

Contact Kelsey Kasten kelsey.l.kasten@gmail.com or Ben Fortson ben.d.fortson@gmail.com.

Summer Family Fun Nights

JUNE 21 | FAMILY FUN NIGHT | 6:30-8:00

WORSHIP, YARD GAMES, BONFIRE & SMORES

God Speaks



JULY 19 | FAMILY FUN NIGHT | 6:30-8:00

WORSHIP, DUNK TANK, SNOW CONES

God Protects



AUGUST 9 | FAMILY FUN NIGHT | 6:30-8:00

WORSHIP, BOUNCE HOUSE, ICE CREAM

God Provides



Ministry Resources

Byron Hammerstrom
Jeremy Fischer
Chad Wolff
Arlene Brandt-Jenson
Eric Haugland
Not Pictured
Eric Backstrom
Chad Koehlmoos
Eric Ohrtman (Staff)



Our 5th graders celebrated their Earth Care Milestone on Sunday, April 23! Katie Chapman, Shetek Lutheran Bible Camp, taught them about bioluminescence and how they can shine God's love into the world!