

# WINDSWEEP

May 2021

## God is On Line One For You

*We are, all of us, never-ceasing spiritual beings with a unique eternal calling to count for good in God's great universe. ~ Dallas Willard*

This month marks the official end of Spirit of Joy's participation in the nationwide Creating a Culture of Calling (C3) Initiative. Our particular "experiments" growing out of this initiative have included monthly affirmation of vocations in worship, our "Callings at the Crossroads" Lent series, and our "Supper and Storytelling" events this past winter. Our C3 team has also enjoyed the opportunity to learn from great teachers, coaches, and other congregations. (Many thanks to Jodi Hanson, Kerri Tietgen, Marcy Colwell, Adam Punt and Arlene Brandt-Jensen for sharing in this work!)

This work has expanded my own understanding of how the deepest longings of every person—religious or spiritual or self-identified as neither—can be understood in terms of our calling by our Creator. Every human being has a calling, whether they acknowledge it or not!

Stories of callings and the struggle to recognize callings are everywhere! We find them in Scripture to be sure: in the stories of Moses, Deborah, Jeremiah, Esther, Mary, Jesus' disciples, and Saul who becomes Paul to name a few. But God's call on our lives is about more participation in a faith community. Callings are invitations to choose how to live according to my circumstances, my passions, what I'm good at, the needs of the people and community in which I live, where I find meaning and purpose, and what to make of brokenness and suffering.

Our participation in C3 made us aware of how many stories in our culture address some aspect of what it means be called to something greater than our own stories. In everything from The Sound of Music to The Amazing Spiderman, the Star Wars movies to Hamilton, and Moana to the Academy Award winning Soul, the main characters wrestle with what the Church calls callings.

This means that, for Spirit of Joy and other churches, the whole matter of calling provides windows for conversations with neighbors who have no interest in church, or who have become disconnected from faith communities. Many of these neighbors are not very likely to join us for worship any time soon (no matter the style of worship or type of preaching), but they are interested in growing spiritually, especially if they do not have to join something or someone to do so.

An important question for congregations, then, is how to engage these neighbors in things that matter to all of us; things like meaning, purpose, significance—in other words, about callings—without the primary agenda being "getting them to church." Participants in the C3 initiative have created a great resource for us to use and build on: it is a website that points anyone to real life windows of calling. You can take a look at [www.allcalled.org](http://www.allcalled.org). Our participation in the C3 Initiative has ended, but there's a whole lot more to come in living our callings.

~ Pastor Jeff Eisele



[spiritofjoy.net](http://spiritofjoy.net)

605-333-2004

2208 W LaQuinta St

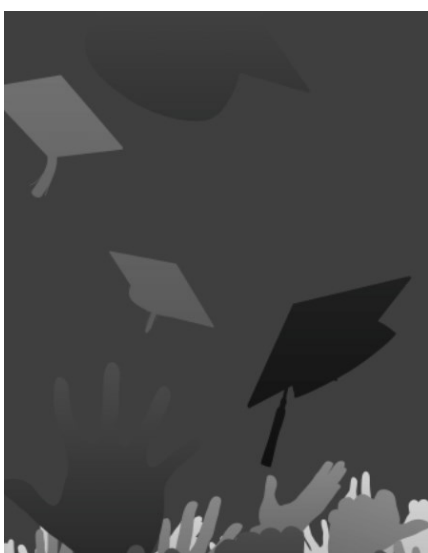
Sioux Falls, SD 57108

# Faith Formation



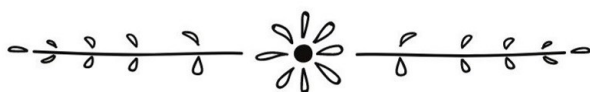
## Kindergarten Prayer Pillow Milestone Wednesday, May 12 6:30-7:30 p.m.

We will learn about prayer and have some fun activities, including a visit by a puppet! Each child will receive his or her very own prayer pillow. Sign up on our website at [spiritofjoy.net/signups](http://spiritofjoy.net/signups) so we can keep our seating distanced and safe.



## Graduation from High School Milestone Sunday, May 16 & 23

Spirit of Joy will celebrate graduating seniors during our 9:00 service on Sunday, May 16 and both services on Sunday, May 23. **If you are a graduating senior, please email or text Madeline Trosvig your full name, a senior photo and future plans ASAP.** Her contact information is [madeline.spiritofjoy@gmail.com](mailto:madeline.spiritofjoy@gmail.com) or 218-205-1889. Sign up on our website at [spiritofjoy.net/signups](http://spiritofjoy.net/signups) so we can keep our seating distanced and safe during the services on May 16 & 23.



## Recent Milestones

Sunday, April 18, Teens heard firsthand stories of the what, why, and how of safe driving. Thanks to Sgt. Paul Creviston (partner at SOJ) for presenting. Wednesday, April 21, 4th graders and their families had meaningful conversations about how to spend, share and save God's good gifts. Thank you to Adam Punt for presenting. The piggy banks were provided by Thrivent. Sunday, April 25, 5th graders learned about God's amazing creation. Thanks to Katie Chapman from Shetek Lutheran Ministries for encouraging the kids to let their lights shine in the world. All three milestones were in the new fellowship space too! Check out the pictures on the next page.

# Ministry Moments



# Outreach Opportunities

## Food to You Mobile Food Pantry

Thank you for the generous donations of Peanut Butter for our ministry partners at the Food to You mobile food pantry. **We collected 227 jars!**

In May, Spirit of Joy will be collecting Tuna for Food to You. Please bring your donation to church May 16-28. There will be a collection box near the sanctuary.



## Ten Tons of Food!!

This past month Spirit of Joy's men's Thursday morning Bible Study group purchased 12 cases of Chunky soup and 13 cases of peanut butter for the Food to You Mobile Food pantry. These gifts mean that this small group of men have now given in **excess of 20,000 pounds of food** to this local feeding ministry since 2011. The group hasn't met in person in over a year, but has continued to make contributions to lend a hand to our hungry neighbors during the pandemic. Thank you, guys, for your extravagant generosity!

## Breakfast at The Banquet

**Location:** 900 East 8th St

**Date:** Friday, May 14.

**Time:** 5:30 a.m. prep, 6:30 a.m. serve.

Sign up on our website  
[spiritofjoy.net/signups](https://spiritofjoy.net/signups).



# Spirit of Joy Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

April 15, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

## I. Unfinished Business

### A. Building Expansion

1. Timing to move MIF building Loan into MIF mortgage: Discussed - no action taken.
2. Building Fund Reserves: Discussed - no action taken.

### B. Call Process

1. Interview Process: The Call Committee will begin interviews of 3 candidates. Discussion followed regarding next steps in the process. The Leadership Team will approve the candidate who is selected by the Call Committee and will then forward the name to the congregation.
2. Congregational Meeting Date and Time (and way to gather): On hold until we have a candidate to present to the congregation.

C. **Review and Recruiting for Congregation Ministry Teams:** Reviewed membership list of the various ministry teams. New members need to be recruited by July 1, 2021.

D. **Pastor Jeff Sabbatical Update:** No update. Dates depend on progress of call process.

## II. New Business

A. **Landscape Design and Installation Proposal:** Motion by Andrew Hewitt and seconded by Kendra Krueger to accept Landscape Garden Center's proposal of \$4646.13 for installed landscaping. Motion carried.

B. **April Benevolence:** Motion by Chad Wolff and seconded by Ron Risty to approve the following benevolence payments. Motion carried.

St. Dymas \$1000, ELCA World Hunger \$1000, Lutheran Outdoors \$1000, Shetek Lutheran Ministries \$1000

COTS \$400—Contingent upon status of book cart. If we have a cart in storage that is acceptable, we will donate the cart rather than funds.

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

*Next Leadership Team Meeting is scheduled for April 15, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.*

## Financials through March 31, 2021

### Checking Account:

General Fund	\$94,043.00
Building Fund	\$14,102.77
Donor Restricted	\$26,278.09
Sunday School	\$396.67
Reserve Fund	\$4,360.10
Petty Cash	\$200.00

	March 2019	March 2020	March 2021
Attendance	1836	???	???
General Offering	\$ 47,971.13	\$ 38,737.72	\$ 40,876.33
Building Offering	\$ 7,584.34	\$ 17,848.80	\$ 14,102.77

### Savings Accounts:

Building	\$571,279.16
<u>Donor Restricted</u>	<u>\$69,552.59</u>
<b>Total Cash Balance</b>	<b>\$780,212.38</b>

### Capital Campaign Totals

Pledged: : \$2,478,485  
Received as of March 31, 2021: \$1,789,539.46

Year-to-date Income for Ministry	\$138,113.19
<u>Year-to-date Expenses for Ministry</u>	<u>\$141,072.91</u>
<b>Net Income/Deficit for Ministry</b>	<b>\$(2,959.72)</b>

# Spirit of Joy Preschool

## Preschool News

Time flies when you are having fun! April is already over but not without loads of fun packed into each moment. Dinosaurs, fairy tales, birds, and pond life discoveries were some of the themes explored with friends.

A variety of learning areas were explored, but especially lots of great hands-on science experiments. Children were able to attempt making bird nests, those birds are very smart and coordinated. It is tough to build a durable and safe nest from grass and mud.

We also discovered sticky science with a challenge: how to reassemble Humpty Dumpty after he fell. Three-year-old children have some great ideas: tape, band aids, chocolate sauce, frosting, sticky tack, marshmallows, Velcro, cotton candy, and glue. The class then gave it a try with paper and materials in the classroom- great problem solving!

Dinosaur Week allowed us to practice math skills comparing sizes of dinosaurs and measuring the dinosaurs' footprints size through estimation, measurement, and counting. We filled the dinosaur footprint with preschoolers- 12! Children then wondered- how many books would fit inside a dinosaur footprint, how many blocks, and more!

As a part of this month's events, we talked about how God creates, provides, forgives and heals. Children have made instruments to sing praise while listing items God has given them. The Easter story provided many thoughtful conversations and emotions such as sadness, surprise, confusion, and joy. Finally, we have been taking time to appreciate creation and how to care for it. We are lucky to have many animals and plants just outside the classroom to observe.

We hope you have a safe, happy summer! Kindly, Amy Cauble



## Yearend Preschool Program

The fourth year of SOJ Preschool is drawing to a close this month. You are invited to celebrate with families and friends on May 19 or May 20 at 11:30am for our yearend celebration. Children will perform a few of their favorite songs and celebrate all the things they have learned. The program will be held in the sanctuary. \*Please wear masks. Social distancing will apply.



## Tours Always Available

Registration forms for Fall 2021 are now being taken. If you or someone you know is looking for a preschool, we would love to meet them! 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://www.facebook.com/spiritofjoypreschool). Tours of the preschool are always available by contacting Amy Cauble, 333-2004 or [amycauble@spiritofjoypreschool.net](mailto:amycauble@spiritofjoypreschool.net).



## PizzaRev Fundraiser

Hungry? Busy, and out of ideas for supper? We have a great solution...SOJ Preschool PizzaRev Fundraiser! Visit PizzaRev on Thursday, May 13 anytime between 11am- 9pm and enjoy some delicious food. Great options for all ages and preferences. 20% of sales will be returned to SOJ Preschool just by mentioning our name at checkout time. (PizzaRev is located near 49th Street and Louise intersection.) Thank you in advance!



# Odds & Ends

## BeFrienders program "I'm Praying for You..."

BeFrienders will start mailing postcards to partners of Spirit of Joy indicating we will be praying for your family during the following week. Each week a BeFriender will be mailing three cards to partner households. We hope to touch all partners of Spirit of Joy through prayer in the next three months. On the card will be the name, email address, and phone



number of the BeFriender who will be praying for you so you can let her know if you have special prayer requests. All BeFrienders would welcome visiting with you and they all can receive text messages.

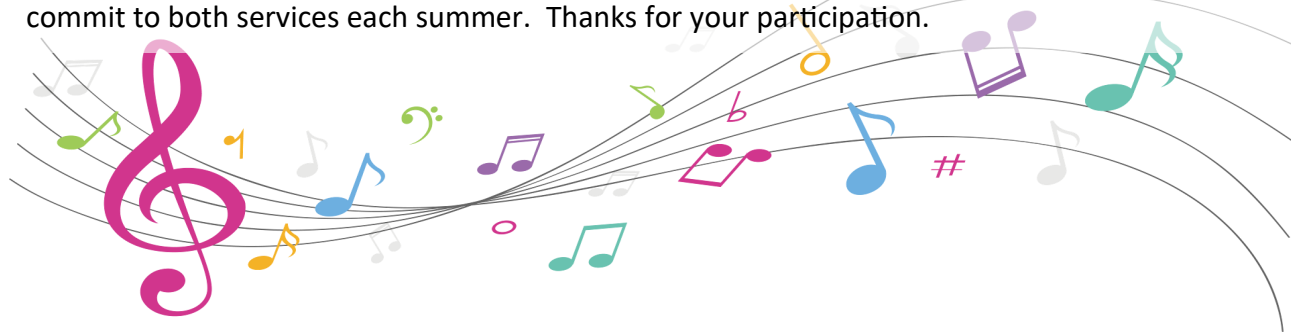


**Reminder:** BeFrienders are partners of Spirit of Joy who have been trained in the art of listening. If you would like to visit with someone who can listen to your concerns, griefs, transitions, Covid concerns, etc., call the church office at 333-2004 or BeFriender coordinator Linda Beckman at 605-759-4663 or email [linda.beckman2@gmail.com](mailto:linda.beckman2@gmail.com) and a BeFriender will contact you.



## Calling musicians of all ages!

Students and adults of all ages are invited and encouraged to share their musical talents in worship. Please contact Susan Wold Rohde ([swoldrohde@gmail.com](mailto:swoldrohde@gmail.com)) or Carli Bollin ([carli.spiritofjoy@gmail.com](mailto:carli.spiritofjoy@gmail.com)) with dates that you are available. It is preferable that musicians commit to both services each summer. Thanks for your participation.





# Family Fun Nights

6:30 PM | SoJ

## June 28th- Hearts on Fire for Jesus Campfire Worship

Learn about the Holy Spirit and the season of Pentecost with us while making kites & making smores!



## July 14th- Wet and Wild Worship

Get ready to worship with water and participate in water Olympics! Wear a swim suit or clothes that can get wet.

## August 9th- Buzzing Bee Worship

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



# Spirit of Joy Spaces

As we put things back together again in the church, watch for changes in classrooms, storage areas and even in the new spaces.



**New Children's Play Area:** Thank you to Jodi Haugland and Troop 41111 for sorting through boxes of books, puzzles and games. They found the best to keep on our shelves and sorted through the ones to be donated. A new area rug will be added soon to make this a special place for our smallest partners!

**Sanctuary:** Thank you to Madeline Trosvig and a few High School youth for dusting all the chairs, Bibles and hymnals. New construction is a very dusty business!

