

# WIND SWEPT

## Monthly Newsletter

October 2022

**Romans 3:28** "For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law."

Paul's letter to the congregation in Rome was his masterpiece. Paul and the people of Rome knew of each other, but Paul had not yet visited and he was not yet familiar with all of the inner workings of the congregation, so the letter was less of a pastoral response to a specific situation and more of an introduction to himself, his way of thinking about the Christian faith, and an invitation building up of the kingdom. Carefully considered and thoughtfully arranged, it was built on the foundations of scripture and has laid the groundwork for much of the theological work done since its publication.

Our foundation for mission and ministry at Spirit of Joy are those same Hebrew scriptures that Paul leaned on, and the expanded Christian scriptures, of which Paul was a primary author. To understand those writings, we look through the lens of church teachers, including Martin Luther, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, St. Augustine, and the contemporary teachings of our ELCA and its leaders. From that study and attention, we have arrived at five key perspectives and five corresponding priorities/commitments/values that have been the groundwork from which we have built the community that is Spirit of Joy.

### Our Key Perspectives and Core Practices

1. Jesus Christ is the way to life. **Passionate Worship**

We believe Jesus is Lord (John 20:28), and that He has most clearly revealed who He is by His suffering love on a cross. Following Jesus is our first priority, and the way to experience life that is abundant (John 10:10), joy-filled (John 15:11), and everlasting (John 3:16).

2. All people matter to God and so they matter to us. **Radical Hospitality**

We are committed to obeying Jesus' New Commandment (John 13:34-35) and to reaching out with the unconditional and everlasting love of Jesus to all people, just as they are, without regard to race, beliefs, gender, age, sexual orientation, lifestyle, or anything else.

3. Following Jesus is a life-long, growing experience. **Lifelong Faith Formation**

When we meet God through the love of Christ, we are changed and impelled towards spiritual maturity (Philippians 3:13-14). For this reason we strive to bring people into an ever-growing relationship with Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:19).

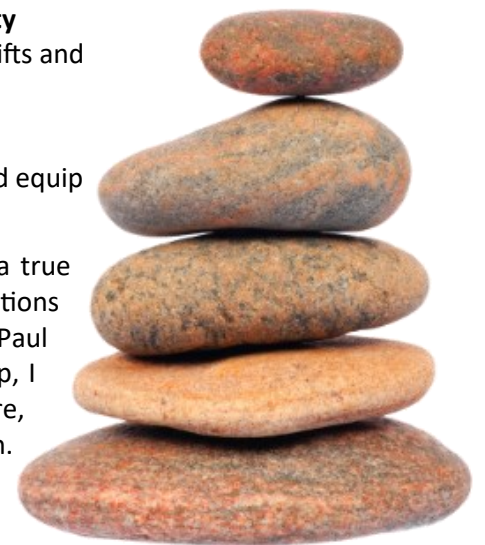
4. Every Jesus follower is called to and gifted for ministry. **Extravagant Generosity**

We believe God calls every believer to ministry, and gives every believer special gifts and abilities for faithful living and serving (1 Corinthians 12).

5. God is continually at work in us to transform the world. **Bold Service**

We believe God is at work here and now, through the Holy Spirit, to empower and equip us for carrying out our mission (John 14:26, Acts 2:1-42).

My invitation to you is to the daily living out of these perspectives and values as a true partner with Spirit of Joy. Our future together, will be built on these same foundations and I hope that individually you will hear God's call to live these values. Just as Paul wrote to the congregation in Rome uncertain what would come of their partnership, I can not tell you what our future together might bring. But, it will be rooted in scripture, and built on the foundation you and all the saints who have gone before us have lain. And, in that, I trust that the Holy Spirit will bless us with faith, hope, and love.



~ Pastor Eric

**Look through the rest of this newsletter for many ways that we can live out these values together!**

# mark your Calendar



New Partner Class: Sunday, October 16

*Interested in becoming a new partner at Spirit of Joy?*

Join us after worship on Sunday, Oct. 16. We'll begin with lunch and a tour of the campus. Then, we sit together to get to know each other and Spirit of Joy. We'll capture a picture to share with the congregation, play a getting to know you game, watch a Rob Bell video, and take a deep dive into our 5 Core Commitments and the Practices that accompany them. Lunch begins at noon and we'll finish by 2:30. Children are welcome. If you'd like childcare, please ask and we're happy to arrange it! Sign up online at [spiritofjoy.net/signups](https://spiritofjoy.net/signups).



FaithX Strategic Missional Consulting: Sunday, October 23

*Rev. Jonathan Steiner, Associate to the Bishop of the SD Synod*

As part of our Call Processes, we will welcome Pr. Steiner on Sunday, October 23 from 12-2pm. All are invited. Please sign up at [spiritofjoy.net/signups](https://spiritofjoy.net/signups). Lunch will be provided! Pr. Steiner will have met with Leadership prior to our conversation to identify particular areas of interest as we consider the future of Spirit of Joy. Then, he will lead us through a 2-hour workshop to discover areas of opportunity for our partners!



Reformation Sunday: Sunday, October 30

*Celebration of Affirmation of Baptism at both services | Cake Reception at 10am*



SoJ's 20th Anniversary Celebration: Sunday, November 6

*Video, Litany, and Anniversary Gifts at both services | Cookie Reception at 10am*

### **Anniversary Challenge:**

Consider a one-time gift of 20... to help celebrate our Mission & Ministry.

\$20, \$200, \$2,000, \$20,000!



3rd Annual Walk of Remembrance: All Saints Sunday

*Sunday, November 6, 5:30-6:30 p.m.*

Follow a path lit with luminaries and names of saints that will lead to our prayer gardens and a campfire. As you walk, we invite you to give thanks for the lives of saints in your lives who have died and those who are still living. Participants are invited to come and go as they please and walk at your own pace.

## Who We Are

The Creation Care Team is a group of partners who are passionate about promoting care for God's creation. Our mission is to "cultivate a community of dedicated stewards of earth and neighbor who proclaim God's promise of hope and healing for all." We refer to [Lutherans Restoring Creation](#), a grassroots movement within the ELCA, for guidelines and resources. Want to join us? Contact Mandy Freeseemann, 605-212-7428, or Arlene Brandt-Jenson, 605-868-6180.

**Join us after the 11:00 service on Sunday, October 2 to visit Good Earth State Park.** Bring a picnic lunch. We'll hear a brief talk about pollinators and walk the beautiful trails. We will carpool from SoJ parking lot; if you don't have a state park sticker, you can ride with others who do. You can store your picnic lunch in the fridge during the 11:00 service.

## What We're Doing Around Spirit of Joy

Have you noticed the new blue "saddle baskets" in the classrooms, and paired trash/recycling bins and signage? We are passionate about keeping recyclable items out of the landfill. Creation Care team members toured Millennium Recycling and it was an excellent learning experience. If you have recycling questions, check out Millennium's [Website](#) or [Facebook](#) page. They are passionate about debunking recycling myths and banishing "wish-cycling!"



Have you noticed the brown strip of land on the east side of our property? This 0.1 ac. strip will be seeded to native grasses and wildflowers this fall in a dormant seeding. Some seeds need the overwintering process to improve the germination rate. Next spring seedlings such as little bluestem, switchgrass, milkweed, coneflower, and purple prairie clover will emerge. Insects need certain plants to complete their lifecycle; for example, Monarch butterflies need milkweeds for their caterpillars to eat. Flowers provide nectar and pollen as energy sources for butterflies and bees. Just like humans need a healthy diet, God's little creatures need good nutrition too. Our little prairie area will help provide that.

### ***Other Creation Care Happenings***

- Decreased paper usage for bulletins
- Increased use of technology such as digital directory to save paper
- Purchased cart for collecting trash and recycling efficiently
- Swapped out recycle bins from hauler for bigger 95-gal bins to handle larger capacity
- Working with Southeast Technical Institute welding department to make bike rack

## What You Can Do At Home

Have you heard the phrase "leave the leaves?" Many of us rake, mow, and blow away every leaf in our yard - but fallen leaves provide valuable habitats for overwintering pollinators. A layer of leaves can help protect overwintering animals. If you can, leave a few out-of-the-way leaf piles, perhaps in the corner of your yard or under shrubs and trees. Also, consider leaving most perennials uncut through the winter. Some native bee species nest in hollow stems and many butterflies and moths pupate and spend the winter on these plants. Birds such as goldfinches eat the seeds of black-eyed susans and coneflowers. There's no real need to cut back perennials until early spring, when new growth begins to push through.

For the LORD is a great God and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed. Psalm 95:3-5 NRSV

# Faith Formation

## Upcoming Milestones & Events

### 3rd Grade Bibles—Wednesday, October 12 & 19

3rd graders and adult volunteers will talk about the parts of the Bible, find out how many little books are in the Bible, identify who to ask if they have questions about the Bible, make bookmarks, and discuss how you and your family can use the Bible with our Taking Home Faith Inserts. Wednesday, October 19, students and parents will receive Prayer and Blessing during Worship.

### 10th Grade Affirmation of Baptism—Sunday, October 30

10th Graders, their parents, baptismal sponsors, confirmation mentors, family members, and all partners of Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church will be a part of this blessed experience as our students move to another level of their faith formation.

### Women's Retreat at Joy Ranch - October 14-15

Women of Spirit of Joy will enjoy a one night retreat at Joy Ranch. They will join Deacon Hannah and discuss "Embracing Change".

## Thank you to Spirit of Joy:

- Making the Bible and Blessing Milestone a beautiful moment for our 3-year-old and his family.
- Allowing us to celebrate 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Entry into Confirmation/Image of God Milestone. 6<sup>th</sup> graders remember you are created in God's image! So, live out your faith with the help of God.
- Participating in the 4-year-olds Walking with Jesus Milestone! We pray that our 4-year-olds have a wonderful time hanging out with Jesus and know that He is with them ALWAYS.
- Bringing your little ones to Little Lambs as our volunteers promote the fulfilling of baptismal promise, create a safe and warm space at church, and remind us that faith is not a private matter but a community mission at SOJ!
- Beautiful women of God who participate in our weekly Thursday Bible Study. It has been an engaging learning experience. We pray for God's continuous grace!



thank you

# Faith Formation

## October Sunday Forums (Galilee Room)

### “By What Authority? Rethinking Early Church History”

October 2: Christian Identity

October 9: Heresies & Council

October 16: What Language Shall We Borrow?

October 23: Charis Ministries (Cindy Haiar in Shalom Center)

October 30: Worship in the Early Church

## NEW THIS MONTH \*\* Fun & Fellowship

*Join Deacon Hannah for coffee, tea, fun, & fellowship the last Monday of the month.*

First event will be Monday, October 31 at 10:00 a.m. in the Shalom Center. Fellowship plays a significant role in bringing us together as a church community. We will enjoy each other's company along with coffee, tea, and snacks. It is a time of relaxation and conversation. We hope to have light but meaningful conversations and build healthy relationships. Come just as you are. We will have coffee and tea; and then work on the fun and fellowship together! This group time is opened to both male and females, husband and wife, and anybody who is interested. **No Sign Up; Just Show Up!**

# Befriender...

WE'LL LISTEN TO YOU!



**Want to connect?**

Church: 605-333-2004

Linda Beckman: 605-759-4663



**BEFRIENDER  
MINISTRY**

*A Listening Presence*

# Outreach Opportunities

## FOOD TO YOU

**OCTOBER 13**  
**MESSIAH NEW HOPE**  
**5001 E MADISON ST**



FOOD OF THE MONTH  
**PEANUT BUTTER**

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



# St. Dysmas

hope beyond bars

Spirit of Joy will worship with St. Dysmas Prison Congregation on  
Thanksgiving Day | Thursday, November 24 | 6:00 PM

Pick up a registration packet on the  
Welcome Center or online at [spiritofjoy.net/signups](https://spiritofjoy.net/signups).

**All forms must be completed and returned to SoJ office by Monday, October 17.**



# PRESCHOOL TEAM

Amy Cauble, Amy Orr,  
Liz Lynch, Ali Lennon,  
Emily Karels, Jamie Appel



Amy Cauble   Kendra Namanny   Jamie Appel  
Preschool Staff



SPIRIT OF JOY INVITES YOU TO INDOOR

# TRUNK-OR-TREAT

WED., OCT. 26 | 6:15-7:00PM | SPIRIT OF JOY CLASSROOMS

# Spirit of Joy Preschool

## Fun Run & Bike-a-Thon Fundraiser

Thank you for your support! We are taking steps toward the goal of \$1500. Watch the kitchen wall in the Gathering Space for our progress.

Money raised will support the Kindermusik program and help sustain the scholarship fund for future preschool students. Your donation provide early childhood education to children as well as nurture their faith formation.

Donations are still accepted! If you would like to assist the preschool, check the Welcome Center kiosk for a drop box or donate through the church app, please specify "preschool" in your donation.



## Important Dates and INFORMATION

October 7 & 10 - No Preschool Classes

October 24 & 26 - Preschool Conferences

October 27 & 31 - Fall Party at Preschool



# Spirit of Joy Preschool

## Preschool Joys

Quotes from preschool friends that will make you smile:

**“Hey look, I can make a cross with these sticks! It’s just like at our school.”**

**“Don’t worry, come and sit by me! I have a spot for you right here.”**

*(Said one student to another when unsure about who to play with in the classroom.)*

**“Did you hear that song? It’s Jesus loves me - I know that one!”**

*(when hearing a song on the CD player at playtime)*



**For more information or to schedule a tour (available anytime)**

contact Amy Cauble, teacher & director at 605-333-2004

[amycauble@spiritofjoypreschool.net](mailto:amycauble@spiritofjoypreschool.net).

**Check out our Facebook page to see what we do throughout the year**

[Facebook.com/spiritofjoypreschool](https://www.facebook.com/spiritofjoypreschool)



# Youth News



## Youth Group Halloween Outing

Join the Youth Group for a fun, but spooky outing to the Jaycees Fearground on Saturday, October 22!

The Jaycees have run their Haunted House project since 1974. There have been many different versions of the haunt and it currently exists as a 6,000-square-foot haunted house in the Fine Arts building on the fairgrounds.

We will meet at 8:00 PM in the SOJ parking lot and ride share to the fairgrounds. Pay \$5 for the ticket, and we will cover the rest!

Please sign up online at [spiritofjoy.net/signups](http://spiritofjoy.net/signups) by October 19

*~~ At least 10 people need to be signed up before our deadline to hold this event ~~*

High School Youth Group  
Meets Sundays 5:30-7:00 PM

5:30 Meal served in Shalom  
5:45-6:30 Caring Conversations  
6:30-7:00 Games



Dear Spirit of Joy Friends:

Thank you so very much for the wonderfully gracious and generous kind words, prayers, farewell party and gifts on my last Sunday serving as your pastor. I am still overwhelmed by all the memories, stories, cards, and affirmations that so many of you shared with my family and me as I completed my call to serve with you.

I continue to thank God for you, and for the many ways that the Holy Spirit of Joy has blessed our community as I have been so very blessed by sharing ministry with you. I look forward to hearing and seeing how the same Spirit will be working in you and through you to build on the foundation that has been laid.

Joy and Peace to you,  
**Pastor Jeff Eisele**

THANK YOU

# Summary of the Special Meeting of the Congregation

September 18, 2022

Writing to the church in Corinth, the Apostle Paul encouraged believers there to consider their own call. As we begin our work as a congregation in the call process, we may consider the call we all have from God by exploring a few of the following scriptures: Acts 2:39, Ephesians 4:4-6, Colossians 3:15, 1 Timothy 6:12, 1 Peter 39, and 1 John 3:1

Spirit of Joy gathered in a Special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, September 18 to discuss the next steps for Lead Pastor.

You can find a video of Andrew Hewitt giving an overview of the call process that was shown at the meeting here: [VIDEO](#)

### The new Call Committee members (by unanimous vote):

John Sutton  
 Karissa Haddican  
 Mary Victor  
 Kris Detert  
 Gabbie Ahrendt  
 Paul Johnston  
 Jennifer Bergan Gabor

As these faithful servants gather in the coming days and undertake the task of guiding us through the process of calling a Lead Pastor for Spirit of Joy, please keep them in your prayers.

Gracious calling God, call on us with your grace again and again. Renew us daily in the peace, hope, and eternal life we have been promised and which we have been called to proclaim. As we work to call a pastor to our congregation, may we count on the prayers of all members of this community of faith to uphold us, just as we trust your Spirit to guide us. We remember, God, you are the One who called us first. Amen.

*~ The opening paragraph and prayer are from our friends in the SWMN Synod of the ELCA.*

## Financials through August 2022

### Checking Account:

General Fund \$38,720.05  
 Building Fund \$24,475.27  
 Donor Restricted \$22,064.91  
 Sunday School \$877.33  
 Reserve Fund \$4,360.10  
 Petty Cash \$200.00

	August 2020	August 2021	August 2022
Attendance	???	???	1046
General Offering	\$ 38,503.62	\$ 44,287.82	\$ 63,530.44
Building Offering	\$ 73,436.55	\$ 10,326.68	\$ 24,475.27

### Savings Accounts:

Building \$166,335.96  
Donor Restricted \$69,478.24  
**Total Cash Balance \$235,814.20**

### Capital Campaign Totals

Pledged: \$2,478,485  
 Received as of August 31, 2022: \$2,297,671.32

Year-to-date Income for Ministry \$405,369.79  
Year-to-date Expenses for Ministry \$443,325.64  
**Net Income/Deficit for Ministry - \$37,955.85**

### Overflowing! Campaign Totals

Pledged: \$678,770  
 Received as of August 31, 2022: \$106,301.64

# Did You Know...

- SoJ provided 100 t-shirts and 9 volunteers to Church on the Street's event "Arts in the Park"
- SoJ purchased an additional 487lbs of produce for Food to You in August
- SoJ hosted the Sioux Falls area Master Gardener's Dinner in August
- More than 50 individuals participated in Faith Formation opportunities at SoJ in August
- There's a team that meets to fold bulletins and share a treat every Friday at 9am
- Volunteers donate in excess of 200 hours each week to the mission and ministry of SoJ

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## Children of Joy Sponsorship

Our children's offering (collected in the blue can) sponsors 10th grader Elavarasan from India through Lutheran Partners in Global Ministry.

Our gifts help provide his education, accommodations at the Hostel, quality meals and clothing!



**Elavarasan**  
**Birthday: January 11, 2008**

# Take Note

## Lunch Bible Study

Thursday, October 6, 11:30-12:30

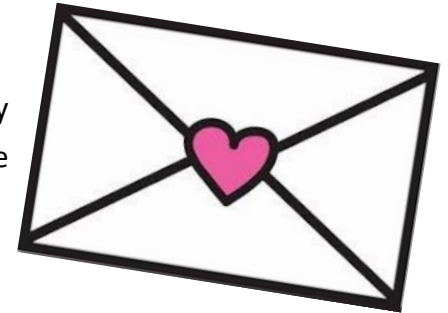
Join Pr. Eric for a monthly conversation about the gospel texts for Sundays.

First Thursday of the month at Pizza di Paolo (2300 S. Minnesota).



## WANTED: Addresses for your young adult

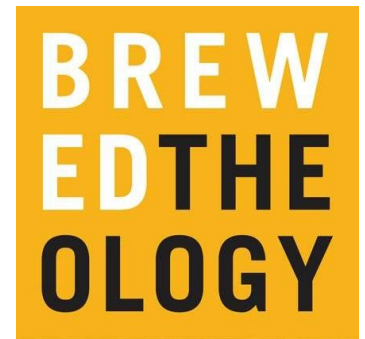
Spirit of Joy wants to send care packages to our young adult partners away from home. If you would like to be sure your family member is included, please fill out the form on our website at [spiritofjoy.net/signups](http://spiritofjoy.net/signups), by October 18.



## Brewed Theology

Monday, October 10, 7:00 p.m.

A quarterly conversation about the intersection of faith and everyday life. This month, "God in Sports: Silly or Serious?" at Severance Brewing. You can find the reading to help our conversation at [spiritofjoy.net/signups](http://spiritofjoy.net/signups). All are welcome!



## Spirit of Joy Staff Emails

*Some of the staff have new and updated emails to be more uniform.*

**Pastor Eric Ohrtman**

eric.spiritofjoy@gmail.com

**Office Manager: Heather Wald**

heather.spiritofjoy@gmail.com

**Director of Lifelong Faith Formation:**

**Hannah Fleming**

hannah.spiritofjoy@gmail.com

**Director of Preschool: Amy Cauble**

amy.spiritofjoy@gmail.com

**Communications: Eric Gohl**

eric.spiritofjoy.net@gmail.com

**Children's Faith Formation:**

**Michele Vogel**

michele.spiritofjoy@gmail.com

**High School Faith Formation:**

**Madeline Trosvig**

madeline.spiritofjoy@gmail.com

**Worship Leader & Director of Choirs:**

**Carson Covey**

carson.spiritofjoy@gmail.com

**Worship Leader: Carli Kuehn**

carli.spiritofjoy@gmail.com