

# WINDSWEPT

October 2021



*God spoke: "Let us make human beings in our image, make them reflecting our nature, so they can be responsible for the fish in the sea, the birds in the air, the cattle, **and Earth itself**, and every animal that moves on the face of the Earth." Genesis 1:26 in *The Message**



Last month in Windswept I shared some of the places Katherine and I visited this past summer as I enjoyed your gift of a sabbatical. We traveled to several national parks in the Mountain West and went boating on northern Minnesota lakes. We hiked and paddled in some beautiful places.

On the road and at home throughout the summer we also regularly encountered the smoky haze that was the result of thousands of wildfires. Smoke was the backdrop of nearly every landscape. We repeatedly saw the impact of the extreme drought that afflicted most of the territory we visited. During those same summer days other regions of the country experienced tremendous rainfall and killing floods.

No single summer filled with such devastating events could provide enough data for scientists to determine that the Earth's climate is changing. However, the vast majority of climate scientists around the world agree that events like these on top of decades of research do tell us that our planet is warming, human beings are responsible, and the impact is widespread and serious.

This month we move into the time of year when our congregation joins many congregations in considering how to live as faithful stewards of the good gifts God has given us. That usually means an examination of what we do with our time, our talents and our treasure. We will invite your

reflection on these things again this year. We will also invite you who to gather in a new small group and talk about how we can more faithfully respond to God's first call to us in Genesis. We will look specifically at our Christian responsibility in the midst of climate change.

Our guide for this discussion will be Christian climate scientist and author Katharine Hayhoe. Hayhoe repeatedly encourages faith communities to begin responding to the climate crisis by talking about the issue. It has for too long been one more issue that divides us into separate hostile camps resulting in fear, hopelessness, and silence. And silence means the status quo will prevail as the planet continues to heat up with devastating consequences.

Spirit of Joy's conversation will begin on Tuesday, November 2nd at 6:30 p.m. in our building (room to be determined). A good way to get ready for the conversation is to purchase Dr. Hayhoe's brand new book, *Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World*. Or check out her TED Talk, "The Most Important Thing You Can Do to Fight Climate Change: Talk about It." Climate change, like so many huge problems facing us today, can seem insurmountable. God's first call to us comes with a power greater than our own so we can serve as people of healing and hope. PJE



# Outreach Opportunities

## FOOD TO YOU

**OCTOBER 14**

**MESSIAH NEW HOPE**  
5001 E MADISON ST



FOOD OF THE MONTH  
**CEREAL**

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

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## Food on the Fourth

**Next Up:**

Sunday, October 24  
or Wednesday, October 27



Take a blue SoJ Food on the Fourth bag from the gathering space & return it with non-perishable food items!

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## Save the Date

November 10: Serve at the Banquet West  
*Sign up available soon*

December 5: Necessities for Neighbors at Peace Lutheran  
*Sign up available soon*

# Outreach Opportunities



## Candy Bags for Church on the Street

One way that Spirit of Joy can be an active ministry partner with Church on the Street (CoTS) in the future is to prepare candy bags each month for those who come for worship and for Pastor Rebel to be able to hand out between services each month to the folks that she meets out on the streets of Sioux Falls.

Spirit of Joy volunteers prepared 200 bags of candy for the September CoTS worship service and we will continue to prepare bags of candy for the CoTS worship services and outreach in the city. You can be part of this exciting new outreach ministry opportunity in two different ways. The first way is to sign up with a group from the church to put together the candy bags for a particular month. Watch the Spirit of Joy newsletter and bulletin announcements for sign up information. The second way is to donate wrapped candy for the candy bags. Did you know that it takes 4,600 pieces of candy to fill 200 candy bags each month for CoTS? Donations of any size bags of wrapped candy are needed each month to fill the candy bags. This can include suckers, bubble gum, hard candy, mini candy bars, etc. Now is a perfect time to buy candy with holiday sales and after holiday sales through the end of the year. You can place your donations at any time in the basket provided on the candy table in the hallway near the library. Thank you.

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## Thank You

On Saturday, September 11, over 20 of our Spirit of Joy ministry partners were in attendance at the September worship service for Church on the Street (CoTS). It was a wonderful opportunity to participate in worship and in service with this community. A big thank you to all who donated hotdogs and hotdog buns and helped serve the noon meal after the worship service!





# Podcast Listening Group

**Listen. Learn. Grow.** Is a podcast listening group led by Pr. Eric Ohrtman here at Spirit of Joy. We're just getting started and the group may evolve, but our current plan is this:



1. A monthly topic or theme. Some months that will mean several episodes from the same podcast, others it will mean episodes from a number of different podcasts.
2. A weekly episode. We are already too burdened and we don't want this group to add to that burden, instead to teach us how faith, study, and prayer can fit into our routines. Podcasts make it possible to listen while we walk the dog, mow the lawn, or wait for our kids at practice.
3. A monthly meeting. Right now, the plan is to hold that gathering in person at a location other than Spirit of Joy's building. **Our first gathering will be on Monday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 7pm at the Scooter's at 85<sup>th</sup> and Minnesota.**

**Accessing Episodes:** Download your favorite podcast listening service and access episodes that way. Type or copy and paste the links below into your browser and listen on your computer. Sign up online at [spiritofjoy.net/signups](http://spiritofjoy.net/signups) to receive the links directly to your email each month.

**Some other notes:** You are invited to participate at any time and to invite others. If one month's topic inspires you to listen, go for it. If not, feel free to take that month off. Also, I am very open/need your help developing a library of episodes. If you have ideas for topics or specific episodes, please send them my way!

## October's Topic: Understanding Ourselves

Rob Bell's Robcast Episodes 295-298 "Me, We, Everybody"

The Week of Oct. 3: <https://robbell.podbean.com/e/me-we-everybody>

The Week of Oct. 10: <https://robbell.podbean.com/e/me-we-everybody-part-2>

The Week of Oct. 17: <https://robbell.podbean.com/e/me-we-everybody-part-3>

The Week of Oct. 24: <https://robbell.podbean.com/e/me-we-everybody-part-4>

The Robcast focuses primarily on human development, maturation, and education. These episodes start very simply, evolving to explain a complex growth and development model called Spiral Dynamics (for a little background on Spiral Dynamics visit this link: <https://jthowlett.medium.com/using-spiral-dynamics-to-understand-development-930098e8f092>). Rob's message is ultimately about love and meeting people wherever they are.

The goals of Spiral Dynamics include knowing ourselves and giving space for others to be themselves. Ideally we find ourselves in a stage of development and learn to accept others where they are. Everyone begins at the egocentric stage. As we grow, we move towards the ethnocentric or sociocentric stage, (from ME to WE). Finally, some of us are able to move to the integral stage that and include others (from WE to EVERYBODY).

# SOJ Staff Feature

## Tell us a little about your background!

I was born and raised in Sioux Falls and grew up a member at St. John's Lutheran Church. My wife, Pam, and I met at Augustana College. After college we got married and moved out of state for 12 years (Minnesota, Kansas, Iowa, and back to Minnesota). We returned to Sioux Falls in 2012 and became members of Spirit of Joy in 2013. We have two kids—Carson is 16 (Lincoln High School) and Cate is 11 (Patrick Henry Middle School). I am a realtor at Hegg Realtors and work as the church's communications coordinator part time. When I'm not working I spend most of my time keeping busy with my family—watching baseball games, soccer games, dance performances, band concerts, and attending lots and lots of USF sporting events where Pam is the athletic director.

## What would constitute a "perfect" day for you?

I love, love, love the mountains, so a perfect day would start and end somewhere in the mountains with my family. We have an ELCA camp we like to attend in Colorado, so it's not too difficult to imagine how that type of day would turn out. A hike and campfire would probably be included in the day's activities.

## If you could have any job in the world, what would it be?

Host of the television show The Amazing Race. Traveling from exotic location to exotic location, without all the challenges and difficulties the contestants have to deal with—sounds like an ideal situation to me.

## Guilty Pleasure Movie/ Television Show

I have always been a Star Wars fan. One of my greatest accomplishments as a parent was raising my children to enjoy the original trilogy.

## What is one of your favorite hymns/Christian songs?

O Christ the Same, for multiple reasons. 1) I love that it's to the tune of Oh Danny Boy, which is just about a perfect melody in my opinion. 2) I love the lyrics about the consistency of Christ in your life, no matter the circumstances.



**Eric Gohl**

Communications Coordinator  
[communications@spiritofjoy.net](mailto:communications@spiritofjoy.net)

# October Happenings

## Third Grade Bible Milestone

The third graders and their parents will meet for two Wednesdays, October 13 & 20 at 7:00 p.m. They will learn how to navigate and read their new Whirl Bible and create a new carrying case to keep it safe. They will receive their new Bibles during worship on Sunday, October 24.

## Reclaiming Rest: Sabbath Study and Practices

Stillness. Prayer. Sabbath. In a restless world, what do those words even mean?

Public health expert Kate H. Rademacher grew up thinking it was up to humans to bring healing and justice to earth. Saving the world meant working long hours, answering emails day or night, and competing for professional awards and funding. In an era of pandemic, racial injustice, and deepening inequality, who's got time for a nap?

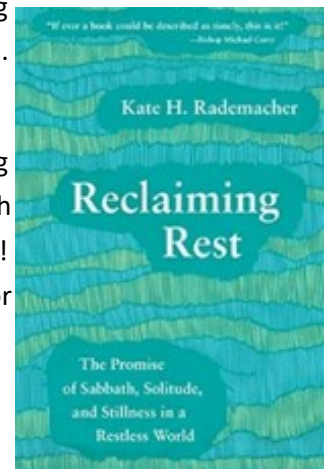
Stressed out and frazzled, Rademacher landed on the Christian story, in which a sought-after Savior retreats to solitary places and prays alone in the wilderness. In the pages of *Reclaiming Rest*, Rademacher tells the story of a year of monthly Sabbath retreats, during which she withdraws from family and work obligations for periods of solitude. She also experiments with disciplines like walking, praying, taking a break from social media, and finding a Sabbath buddy. In lyrical and astute prose, Rademacher teases out answers to questions like: What does rest in a restless world look like? How is Sabbath connected to issues of justice? Vocation? Parenting? Simplicity?

Ultimately, Rademacher claims, Sabbath pierces our illusions of self-reliance and control, and that's good news. What if keeping the Sabbath is not only a commandment to obey but a freedom to reclaim?

Join us for a four week exploration of sabbath. Our study will rely on the book "Reclaiming Rest: The Promise of Sabbath, Solitude, and Stillness in a Restless World" by Kate H. Rademacher.

**Join us Sundays at 6:30 p.m.** for a 90-minute event. After 30 minutes for opening devotions and book discussion we will share in an introduction to a different sabbath practice. It's not too late! We ordered extra books and would love to have you join us! Contact the church office to pick up your copy, or just join us on the first night for discussion and restorative creating!

Cost is \$15 (checks payable to SoJ memo line "Sabbath")



## Save the Date–November 7

### *"Come by Here, my Lord"* Choral-Led Worship

Join us in worship on November 7 to remember and give thanks for beloved saints living now and in the past. Worship will be led by the Spirit of Joy choir with choral and congregational singing, Scripture, prayer, reflection and Holy Communion. In all of life's experiences, we invite God to "Come by Here" and trust that in every joy and every sorrow, "God is ever-present; God is here."

# October Happenings

## Youth News: Acres of Terror

Happy October Folks! Fall is my favorite season of the year. I love the cooler weather, hot apple cider, the changing leaves, Halloween movies, and haunted houses! For a little get away, all high schoolers are invited to Acres of Terror on October 15th. Acres of Terror is the scariest haunted attraction in the Red River Valley since 2003! They have everything from a scary corn maze to an old abandoned school, all decorated and ready for tours with more than 30 actors ready to put on a scare. To join us, please have your spirit of joy education registration completed and sign up online at [spiritofjoy.net](http://spiritofjoy.net). We will meet at 2:30 in the parking lot and carpool together to Leonard, North Dakota! After having dinner and a bone-chilling scare in North Dakota, we will return to Spirit of Joy around midnight. The cost to attend is \$40 and it covers your tour pass and dinner. Payment should be made out to Spirit of Joy and turned into the office anytime during business hours. **Sign up by Sunday, October 10.** As usual, friends are more than welcome to join us!

~ Madeline Trosvig



## Dates to Remember

**Sunday, October 3, 10, 17, 24**

Sabbath Study & Practices

6:30 PM

**Sunday, October 10 | 10 AM**

Congregational Meeting

**Wednesday, October 13 & 20**

3rd Grade Bible Milestone

7:00 PM

**Thursday, October 14**

Food to You

at Messiah New Hope

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

**Friday, October 15**

High School Youth

Acres of Terror | 2:30 PM

**Wednesday, October 27**

Trunk-Or-Treat

6:00-7:00 PM

**Sunday, October 31**

Confirmation Sunday



# Spirit of Joy Preschool



## Preschool News

Preschool began on September 8<sup>th</sup> and we have been off and running ever since! Twenty-one children call Spirit of Joy their preschool with more than half of them new friends and neighbors. This groups is our largest class to date. Miss Kendra and I are so excited to have the preschool children back. The routines are established. Spirit of Joy is becoming a comforting place away from home.

Children have begun to learn classmates' names as well as how important each person is to God and to us. Daily prayers of thanksgiving are said for preschool friends both here and at home. At the beginning of the year, we have talked about how to be a friend and share God's love with others. Children are forming new friendships by helping one another as well as showing kindness and respect. We talked about how everyone can share kindness with others through smiles, pictures, helping hands, and hugs. As a part of our curriculum, each month preschool staff and children participate in a "Love Your Neighbor" project. In September, preschool children created and hand delivered fall leaves to share with church staff, family members, and visitors.

The preschoolers love to learn and try new activities such as buttoning and zipping, writing our names, balancing on a circle, yoga, silly faces, and making paper trees with beads. Sometimes the tables are turned and preschoolers get to teach the rest of the group, including teachers. For example, using rhythm sticks, creating a new memory game, and deciphering patterns.

Experiencing preschool outside is one of the joys of fall! We have been able to eat, play, and learn outside: finding colors, searching for apples, and gathering leaves. There is even a tiny classmate or two on the playground- little toad and big toad who visit on occasion. Little and big toad teach us how to care for others and treasure the many things God has made.

September is just the beginning! We can't wait to see what's in store for the rest of the year. Walk the hallway or visit the classroom as a guest reader or speaker. We would love to share the fun with YOU.

Kindly, Miss Amy & SOJ Preschool Friends



**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://facebook.com/spiritofjoypreschool).

**Contact Amy Cauble**, teacher & director at 333-2004 or [amycauble@spiritofjoypreschool.net](mailto:amycauble@spiritofjoypreschool.net).

## Reaching Out to Our Community

The beginning of the van fundraiser has been strong. To date, we have raised \$4,733. Purchasing t-shirts and donations are very helpful. Another option is to share this idea with friends and family members who may be interested in donating their own car. Please contact Amy Cauble for more information. We are excited to offer this service as soon as possible. Our van fundraiser has started off strong, help us continue to build up this fund.





## Preschool T-Shirt Fundraiser

Thank you for purchasing your Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church & Preschool t-shirt. The pretty blue color is popping up all over town, at outreach opportunities like The Banquet as well as visiting local businesses on daily trips here and there.

If you have not yet purchased your shirt, ALL SIZES ARE BACK IN STOCK. Purchase your t-shirt today for \$15 in the Gathering Space near the main church office. \*100% of profits go toward purchasing a preschool/church van. Our goal is to offer transportation to families who would not be able to attend preschool otherwise.



## Meet the Preschool Children

The preschool children would love to meet you! Do you have a hobby to share such as sewing or woodworking? Maybe your profession could be shared with young children? How about sharing photos and souvenirs about recent travels? Or share a love of reading or taking your lunch break to play on the playground? Please contact Amy Cauble if interested, 333-2004 or [amycauble@spiritofjoy.net](mailto:amycauble@spiritofjoy.net)

## Preschool Dates to Know

**October 7, 8, 11**

No Preschool

**October 7, 14**

Preschool Check-In/Conferences

**October 27, 28**

Preschool Fall Festival for Preschool Families



# From the Bishop's Desk

Partners in ministry across South Dakota,

Grace and peace to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit! - I would like to use this opportunity to invite you to our "Fall Leadership Night". Please, join us on Zoom for an evening with your ministry partners. We had a zoom gathering for leaders in the Spring, over 100 congregation leaders gathered to spend an hour discerning and learning "I have been elected to council, now what?" This fall we hope to gather as many lay and rostered leaders to think about stewarding the church into the future. Representatives from Portico, Lutheran Planned Generosity will join your synod staff in a 1 1/2 hour interactive time with you.



I understand that Zoom is not everyone's favorite way to meet, but we can invite many partners around the table that we would not be able to gather into a physical space, because they are spread out. As we move into the future, strengthening our partnership and relationship with those that journey with us is essential and the truth is that not all partners are close to where we are in physical location. What matters is that we all focus on the same thing proclaiming the Living Word and hope that is found in Christ alone. And yes, that may need to look different than it did a few years ago. But if we believe God is at work in HIS church and is at the heart of what we do and believe, we can pivot. I have full trust in the people of the South Dakota Synod. Therefore mark your calendars for **Sunday, October 10th from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm**. A zoom link will be sent to all those who register. You can access the registration link via the synod's webpage [sdsynod.org/layleader](https://sdsynod.org/layleader). And as always, spread the word in a good way let's go "viral" with the leaders' night.

Journeying in Christ with you,  
Bishop Constanze



**BEFRIENDER  
MINISTRY**

*A Listening Presence*

**Do you want to talk? We'll listen.**

**Life is challenging. Spirit of Joy listeners (BeFrienders) are ready to listen to your concerns.**

Are you concerned about:

- The loss you feel from your child going to college or off on their own?
- The loss you feel when your youngest started school?
- Concerns about school and the virus?

Spirit of Joy's BeFrienders are available to listen to you. They're trained to listen and keep your concerns and transitions confidential. They'll talk with you in person or by phone, email or text.

Call the church office at 334-2004 or contact 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.

# Spirit of Joy Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m.

## I. Unfinished Business

- A. **Updated COVID Protocol:** no change
- B. **Mission Investment Fund Building Loan Paydown and Mortgage Options.**
  1. Conversation regarding those scenarios led to a question about a potential penalty with Mission Investment Fund that stalled a decision about repayment schedules and whether or not to refinance.
  2. The amount from savings to apply towards principal. Pr. Jeff led this conversation and suggested an amount that leaves enough cushion for repairs and rainy days in the ballpark of 9-12 months worth of payments. Moved by Andrew Hewitt. Second by Lori Tripp. To apply \$650,000 toward the repayment of the construction loan from savings.
- C. **Conference Room Technology:** Three bids from two contractors were received. Midstates Audio and AVI submitted bids ranging from \$4400 to \$83200. The decision was made to proceed with AVI due to their familiarity with the building and our other equipment. Moved by Chad Wolff. Second by Kendra Krueger. To enter into a contract with AVI for the installation of technology in the Conference Room not to exceed \$6000.

## II. New Business

- A. **Letter from Deacon Susan Wold Rohde, Music Leader and Director of Choirs.** The letter was received with deep appreciation for Deacon Wold Rohde and her many years of excellent and faithful service.
- B. **Director of Faith Formation Job Description and Call Process.** Pastor Jeff worked with Growth Team and Faith Formation staff to come up with a new job description. Their desire was to see the position grow to full time with a new emphasis on staff supervision, programmatic continuity, and more robust “small group” ministries. Moved by Sarah Manthey. Second by Chad Wolff. To call a meeting of the congregation at 10AM on Sunday, October 10 to consider moving to a full-time call for the Director of Lifelong Faith Formation and forming a Call Committee.
- C. **Annual November Congregational Meeting Day and Time.** Moved by Lori Tripp. Second by Kendra Krueger. That the Annual November Congregation Meeting to consider the 21022 Mission Plan be November 21 at 10AM.
- D. **September Benevolence:** Church on the Street \$1000; Ministries—Food to You \$1000; ELCA World Hunger \$1000; Pueblo \$1000; ; Lutheran Outdoors \$2100 for “Keep the Campfires Burning” Campaign. (\$600 from Camp Scholarships, \$1500 from VBS Fund)

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

*Next Leadership Team Meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, October 21, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.***

## Financials through August 31, 2021

### Checking Account:

General Fund	\$78,701.26
Building Fund	\$10,444.68
Donor Restricted	\$28,469.56
Sunday School	\$283.61
Reserve Fund	\$4,360.10
Petty Cash	\$200.00

### Savings Accounts:

Building	\$746,524.58
Donor Restricted	\$69,473.16
<b>Total Cash Balance</b>	<b>\$938,456.95</b>

	August 2019	August 2020	August 2021
Attendance	989	???	???
General Offering	\$ 50,529.03	\$ 38,503.62	\$ 44,087.82
Building Offering	\$ 199,614.56	\$ 73,436.55	\$ 10,326.68

### Capital Campaign Totals

Pledged: \$2,478,485

Received as of August 31, 2021: \$2,045,650.07

Year-to-date Income for Ministry	\$352,293.39
Year-to-date Expenses for Ministry	\$370,078.91
<b>Net Income/Deficit for Ministry</b>	<b>- \$17,785.52</b>



