

Windswept

Monthly updates on the mission & ministry of Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church



On January 13, we celebrated those who were baptized in the last year. Thank you to all who were able to participate in this anniversary milestone.

Building a Bigger House



This coming month Spirit of Joy’s careful planning for expanding our building will reach the point of asking our partners to step up and support this bold project. The designing of new and remodeled spaces is nearing completion. We are now beginning to plan a capital

campaign that will include asking for every household’s generous support of this work, which will help shape our ministry for the coming decades.

Our building expansion planning began with the visioning process we launched in the fall of 2016 with the help of Jim LaDoux of Vibrant Faith Ministries. We heard in multiple focus groups and an online survey that one of our priorities for our “ministry trail map” into the future needed to be the creation of a plan to address future facility needs. That priority was reaffirmed in the feasibility study carried out this past fall.

Along our way we also received information about the numbers of new neighbors expected to move into our area in the next five years. Projections from census information is that there will be another *350 housing units* built *within a mile* of Spirit of Joy in the next five years, and an additional *2500 units* within three miles. There are many more new neighbors coming—will we make room for them, and invite them in?

Even more important than these answers to *why build a bigger house* is the reminder of why God’s church bothers to gather together at all. Lutheran pastor and theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer put it this way:

A truth, a doctrine, or a religion needs no space for itself. They are disembodied entities.... But the incarnate Son of God needs not only ears or hearts, but living people who will follow him. That is why he called his disciples into a literal, bodily following, and thus made his fellowship with them a visible reality.

Our future building will provide the necessary expanded spaces for this living fellowship to gather, worship, eat and drink at the Lord’s table, feast, train persons of all ages how to live as apprentices of Jesus, and invite other neighbors in who’ve yet to experience the “grace upon grace” (John 1:16) we’ve been called to share. I hope you will join our work of making room for our neighbors, so more might know Christ’s love.

Blessings,

Pastor Jeff Eisele

Staff

Lead Pastor
Jeff Eisele

Associate Pastor
Christy Hallenbeck Ask

Office Manager
Amy Orr

Director of Adult/Family Faith Formation
Deacon Katherine Eisele

Director of Children/Youth Faith Formation
Mike Haddican

Preschool Director
Amy Cauble

Communications Coordinator
Audrey Shattuck

Worship Leader
Deacon Susan Wold Rohde

Financial Report through December 31, 2018

Checking Account

General Fund	\$68,867.06
Building Fund	\$34,723.57
Donor Restricted	\$3,917.34
Sunday School	\$36,354.15
Preschool	
Reserve Fund	\$36,354.15
Petty Cash	\$200

Savings Accounts

Building	\$106,938.57
Donor Restricted	\$69,514.27

Total Cash Balance	\$322,187.14
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Year-to-date Income for Ministry	\$611,665.58
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Year-to-date Expenses for Ministry	\$638,476.05
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Net Income/Deficit for Ministry	(\$26,709.07)
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	Dec. 2016	Dec. 2017	Dec. 2018
Attendance	2075	2090	2087
General Offering	\$84,586.05	\$104,635.84	\$77,010.81
Building Offering	\$26,930.33	\$33,143.33	\$34,723.57

The next Leadership Team Meeting will be on February 21, at 6:30pm

Prayers of the Church

Healing and strength for:

Gloria Winterton, Heather Hewitt, Riley Conway, Mike Ryan, Sheila Dovenmuehler, Mark Wolvington, Jean Schubauer, Jeremy Halstenson, Bruce Boyce, and Janice Kelley

Comfort for those who are grieving the death of loved ones:

- **Phil Kolb** and his family as they grieve the death of Phil's brother, **Pete Kolb**
- victims of mudslides in Brazil

Thanksgiving for:

- Teachers **Amy, Valerie, and Brooke**, and all the students in our **Spirit of Joy Preschool**
- the **hundreds of thousands of federal government employees** who continued to go to work to provide safety, security, creation care, and other kinds of assistance despite not getting paid

Guidance and encouragement for:

- leaders and volunteers working with **Feeding South Dakota, Food to You, The Banquet, the St. Francis House**, and other organizations that feed hungry neighbors
- **President Trump, Senators Rounds and Thune, Representative Johnson**, and other leaders in our federal government
- **Governor Noem, state senators and representatives, Mayor Ten Haken**, and other leaders in our state and local governments
- **scientists and advocates** working to halt the damaging impact of climate change
- **refugees and asylum seekers** forced from their homes by threats and violence, and for all who work to help them find new homes
- leaders and members of local mission partners **Pueblo de Dios, Westside, and Table of Grace**
- for partners in ministry in our **companion synods in Nicaragua and Cameroon**

Praying Through the Wilderness-Lent 2019

Do you have a favorite Psalm that has been a gift to you in good times or hard times? During the season of Lent (which begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6), Spirit of Joy will be sharing Psalms that have served as life-giving guides on our journeys of faith. We'll be sharing stories on Wednesday nights and on our Facebook page. We also invite you to get a copy of **Lasting Hope**, this year's Lent devotional book that uses the Psalms to point us to God and remind us of God's promises for us!



Children & Youth Faith Formation

February 2019

High School

Our high school youth have been busy with our weekly youth group discussions of Jesus' life and his ministry. However, we've got cabin fever this time of year and we're looking to shake things up a bit!

On February 6, our high school group will be partnering with Kids Against Hunger from 6:30-8pm. Parent volunteers are needed as drivers and partners as we package meals.



On February 20, our high school group will be heading out to Great Bear for a night of tubing. Cost is \$8 for teens and it is free for adults. Parent volunteers are needed as drivers and to experience the fun of tubing alongside the teens.



Wednesday Children's Ministry

Sprouts (K-3rd Grade) – The kids spent January learning about John the Baptist and the story of the lost sheep & lost coin. In the pictures you can see Aubrey & Brinley acting as John the Baptist, asking Cate & Morgan to “Repent from your sins! The Son of God is coming!”



Faith 5 (4th & 5th Grade) – The kids have been learning about the Prodigal Son, the Lord's Prayer, and the Great Commandment. For the Prodigal Son story, they created haiku poems to retell the story in their own words. For the Great Commandment, they created a collage of pictures that represents certain words from the commandment. Check out their work in the first hallway west of the gathering space!

Prodigal Son Haiku by Hudson

“My son has returned!
Bring the fatted calf!” he cried.
Then they all had partied.

Prodigal Son Haiku by Josie

I left a good life,
to find a life of my own,
I failed and came back.

Sunday Children's Ministry

Preschool

We're excited that our preschool kids have moved into some classrooms for age-specific Sunday School. All preschoolers will be focusing on some of the larger stories in the Bible such as Creation, Jonah & the Big Fish, and the Holy Week/Easter story.

Faith 5

Our Sunday crowd has moved to the Well for Large Group Time to create a more intimate space for conversation. This has created more intentional time for elementary kids and parents to dive into the lesson and get to know their neighbors better. Small Group Time (time spent in classrooms) has been a blessing to families as they share highs & lows, read and discuss the Bible story together, pray together and bless each other. **Haven't checked out Faith 5 in a while?** Whether it has been 2 weeks or 2 months between visits, please come check out Faith 5 again. Kids benefit so much from this time spent with their peers. Parents are welcome to join their children or they can drop them off if you're unable to join us for the hour. All are welcome and we hope you'll join us!

March is a Month of Milestones!

You and your child are invited to celebrate their ONE uniquely age-specific faith milestone activity this year in our milestones ministry.

- Saturday, March 9, 9-10:15am **Kindergarten** Prayer Milestone. Each child will receive a special handmade Prayer Pillow.
- Wednesday, March 20, at 7 pm **or** Sunday, March 24, at 10 am **2nd Grade** Lord's Prayer Milestone. Parents and children learn about this special prayer.
- Saturday, March 23, at 9am. Our **2 year olds** learn that God's church is for them. Each child will receive an individualized Shutterfly book. Kids LOVE to have a book with their very own pictures inside!
- Saturday, March 30, from 9-11:30 am. **First Communion** class for all **1st Graders and older children** who have not yet received instruction. For parents and children. First Communion will be celebrated on Palm Sunday, April 7 at 8:45 and 11:00 morning worship.

Watch for your invitation in the mail for these important Milestones. Do you have questions? Contact Deacon

Katherine Eisele at family@spiritofjoy.net

See you in church!

College Care Packages

Did You Know? There are close to **60** Spirit of Joy partners currently enrolled as full-time students in colleges, universities, and tech school? Part of our ministry to these young adults is praying for them. Thank you for keeping them in YOUR prayers. Another part of our ministry is sending occasional letters and care packages. These are wonderful ways to keep them connected to Spirit of Joy. Our next mailing will be **Saturday, February 2, at 9am at Spirit of Joy**. We'll send a small care package and write **VALENTINE'S DAY PACKAGES** to each student. Parents are encouraged to come to help this go quickly and smoothly. **ALL supplies are provided**, but we need your presence to give those cards a person touch. See you February 2!



Sunday Forums

The American Protestant Experience

resumed January 27, 10am in the Galilee Room.

Ever wonder how our church came to be shaped in its current state? We are uniquely North American. Our history of immigration, the American Revolution, our melting pot experiences, our resolve to be independent both as a nation and as individuals... have all shaped the identities of the Christian churches here. Join us for this excellent DVD series and for conversation with other Spirit of Joy partners and friends.



Coming to **Sunday Forums in Lent: PRAYER**. Everyone wonders about prayer. Even people who pray often wonder about prayer. How to pray. Where to pray. How often? And about what should I pray? Join us for this Prayer 101 series. You may be surprised and freed by what we discover together.

Women of Spirit will gather on Tuesday, February 26, from 6:30-8pm. Our presenter will be John Hegg, sharing how to age gracefully and physically. Dress for light movement and stretching. See you there!

JANUARY IN REVIEW

Happy Winter, Everyone!

Believe it or not, we are halfway through the second year of Preschool at Spirit of Joy. Time really does fly when you are having fun! In the month of January, we have been able to explore what winter is all about in South Dakota: What changes do we see in winter? What activities can we do in winter? What animals like cold weather? There are loads of fun hands on activities. Below are a few fun pictures of the activities we enjoyed.

Thank you for sharing snack and paper items with us! Our snack time is more than a moment to eat. It is a wonderful time of day to socialize with peers and get to know one another better. Your donation is helping us learn and grow- you are the best!



To break up the winter, we also explored the ocean and its creatures. We learned about the unique creatures God made and even adopted a class pet, Swimmy, to care for and love. Swimmy loves to have preschoolers in the classroom- he always waves to us. At the end of the week, there was an awesome beach party in the classroom- popsicles, “swimming”, and sunglasses included.

Preschoolers have also been learning that Jesus grew from a baby to a boy just like them. It was fun to see toys and items that we used Jesus might have needed, too. We practiced saying “thank you, God” for Jesus. We also learned that Jesus is with us when we are afraid, just like the Bible story when he calms the storm. It is helpful to know: “Jesus is always near.” We practiced making faces that looked scared and then faces that felt safe or happy. We all decided we have been scared during a storm, too. It was easy to imagine how the disciples felt.



We are having a great time learning, sharing, and growing together in friendship.

Thank you for sharing SoJ space and resources with us!

Gratefully, Miss Amy



Preschool Registration for 2019-2020 Academic Year is open for everyone!

Preschool families are beginning to enroll for next year already. We would love to have you here! Come tour the Preschool anytime. Registration is easy: grab a green registration form from the Preschool table in the Gathering Space or visit spiritofjoy.net/preschool to register online.

Preschool Class Times:

T, TH 8:30-11:00am or 12:30-3:00pm Child is 3 years old by September 1, 2019.
M, W, F 8:30-11:00am or 12:30-3:00pm Child is 4 years old by September 1, 2019
M-Th 8:30-11:00am or 12:30-3:00pm PreK Class for children 5 years old or almost 5 years old by September 1.

All are welcome! Share the news with your friends, colleagues, neighbors, and receive a referral bonus when they enroll.

SoJ Preschool Parent Learning Event

“Self-Regulation, Movement, and Learning”

Tuesday, February 19, 6:30-7:15pm

Presented by Licensed Occupational Therapist, Mandy Freeseemann

Join us for valuable ways to help your young children learn and grow using movement strategies.

Child care is available for ages 1-10 years old. Sign up by February 12 for child care.

Email Amy Cauble, amycauble@spiritofjoy.net. All families and friends are welcome. You do not need to be a part of the preschool to join.

Preschoolers are amazing!

Making Connections: When talking about the boat rocking and waves splashing in the Bible story, one of the preschoolers raised his hand and asked, “Why didn’t they wear life jackets? That would help them.”

Helping Others: Winter apparel takes time to put on. Children do their best, but sometimes they get stuck. While one friend was waiting for the teacher to help, another friend came up and asked for help as well. Instead of getting upset, the waiting friend said, “How about I help you while I wait? I know how to zip.”

Encouraging words: At pick-up time, a Preschool friend walked up to another parent and said, “Your child sure had a nice day today!”

Hospitality/Outreach/Communications

February 2019

Meet our new ministry partners!

We asked them the question, “Why Spirit of Joy?”
Here’s what they said...



Chris, Autumn, Emery, & Leighton Brockevelt

We were immediately welcomed and continually acknowledged each time we have attended service.



Kendra Krueger

Having moved to Sioux Falls, SD, in September of 2018 by myself I have found a space where I feel welcomed and experienced a place where my faith development was cared for and encouraged. I feel a little sense of home away from home right here in Sioux Falls.



Sheri Poore

Here is where I sense I’ll be nourished in the Word and challenged/inspired by fellow believers. “As iron sharpens iron...” and I could use some sharpening. :)



Margie, Simon, & Isaac Schade

It felt like “home.” We felt like we belonged here from the moment we came through the door.

Spotlight on the Lutheran Church of Faith and Hope in Nicaragua...and Upcoming Visit

Our South Dakota Synod of the ELCA has two Companion Synods -- that is, sister Lutheran synods in other parts of the world -- in Cameroon (West Africa) and Nicaragua (Central America). On **Wednesday, February 12**, we will be blessed to host Rev. Dr. Claudia Soliette Lopez Ortega, a.k.a. Pastor Soliette, who serves the Iglesia Luterana de Nicaragua - Fe y Eperanza (or ILFE, translated the Lutheran Church of Faith and Hope in Nicaragua). Pastor Soliette will be with us during worship at 6:15. Please join us for an evening of worship and learning with our church around the world!



Meanwhile, here are some fast facts about ILFE:

- The church was founded 28 years ago by its current president and bishop, Dr. Victoria Cortez. (You may remember her from her visit to SoJ not too long ago!)
- There are 37 active communities affiliated with ILFE; 95% of them are in rural areas. Each community has four special ministry areas: children, pre-youth, youth, and gender.
- ILFE projects include seed banks, family and community gardens, water and sanitation projects, and well drilling.
- Pastor Soliette is also pastor of a congregation of persons living with HIV and their families.

Please join us for worship on February 13 to learn more about the ministry of ILFE!



Bridges at Horace Mann: get involved!

Spirit of Joy has entered into a partnership with Bridges at Horace Mann Elementary School. Our goal is to support teachers, students, and staff as part of our focus on relational (person-to-person) ministries.

We have two great opportunities to support the school:

- **Dinner for parent-teacher conferences:** Tuesday, February 12. We need cooks and deliverers!
- **Mentor:** we would love for several of our partners to become one-on-one mentors for students of Horace Mann. Mentors meet with students once per week, sometimes during the lunch hour.

To help with dinner on February 12 and/or to learn more about mentoring, contact Carole Chell: carolechell@yahoo.com.

Dinner at the Banquet West: Wednesday, February 27

We're serving dinner at the Banquet West (at the W.H. Lyon Fairgrounds) on Wednesday, February 27. Sign up in the gathering space or online at spiritofjoy.net/signups.

February 2019 Sunday Servants

Date	Time	Ushers	Holy Communion	Greeters	Readers
3	8:45	Kevin & Deb Nelson	Craig & Ronda Samuelson	Dorothy Merchant & Arlene Drew	Pam Merchant
	11:00	Ken & Rita Karels	Eric & Stacy Breidenbach	Van Ballegooyen Family	Michelle Stanek
10	8:45	Dan & Diane Wheeler	Ron & Elaine Frary	Lori Tripp & Marge Hagen	Pam Walton
	11:00	Jason & Jamie Appel	Scot & Kendra Namanny	Colwell Family	TBD
17	8:45	Dave & Alma Tonsager	Pam & Mark Schroeder	Adeline Schempp & Kae Butler	Kevin Nelson
	11:00	Jon & Tricia Merrigan	Greg & Nancy Bertsch	Gina Cole & Beth Kastl	Alison Sundall
24	8:45	Daryl Rossow & Dale Schempp	Kevin & Deb Nelson	Cheryl Zell & Maris Hauger	Ben Schumacher
	11:00	Corey & Kelly Ballew	Brian & Jamie Oyen	Jim & Sue McAdaragh	TBD

Date	Sunday Hosts
3	Brenda Eden, Deb Nelson, Joan Fagerness
10	Elaine Frary, Deb Nelson, Karen Kruse
17	Emily Learning, Donna Ver Wey, Jeanie Mayer
24	Ali Lennon, Donna Ver Wey, Dorothy Merchant

Date	Offering Counters
3	Marlyn Adams, Nilah Adams, Kevin Kittams
10	Jared Ducommun, Rick Lundberg, Tracy Dahl-Webb
17	Darlene Weber-Scott, Ron Risty
24	Eric Backstrom, Gregg Van Meter

Date	Monday Meals on Wheels
4	Daryl & Sharon Sopko
11	Ruth Standjord & Wilma Estes
18	*Presidents' Day-No Deliveries
25	Trish Swanhorst & Linda Beckman

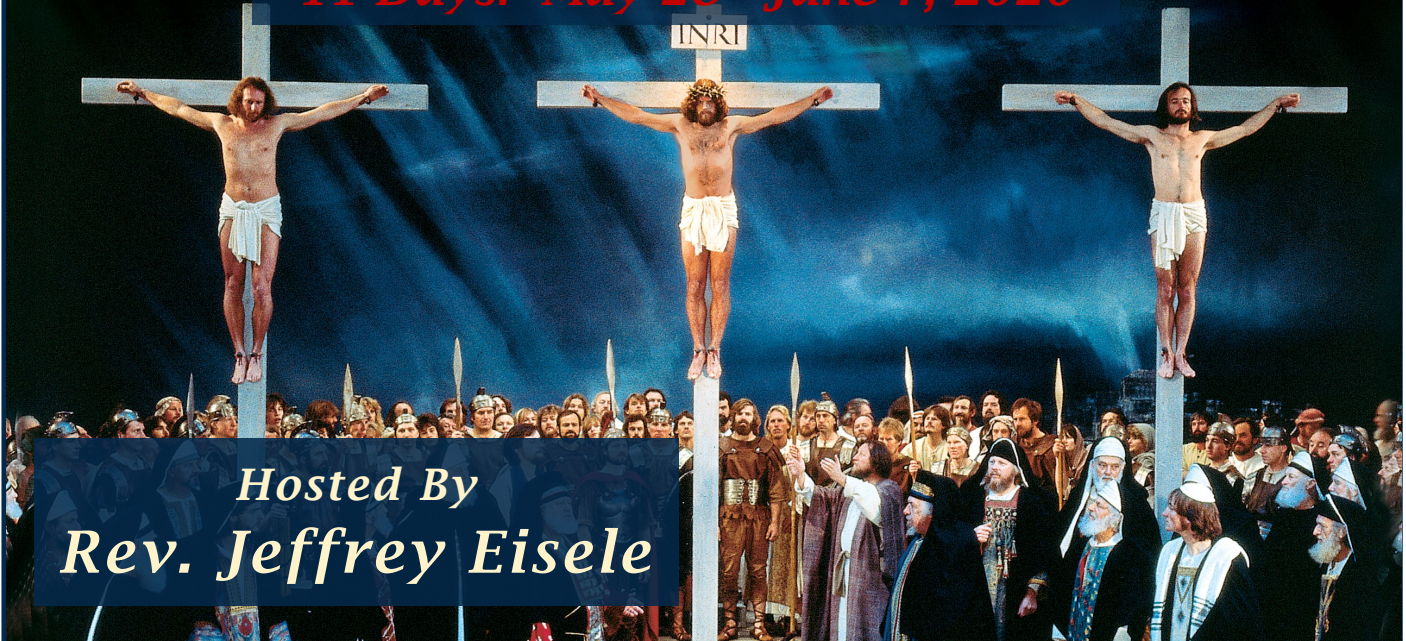
February 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					01	02
					9:00am-The Greatest Story	
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
8:45am- Worship 10:00am-Education 10:00am-Annual Meeting 11:00am-Worship			10:00am-Staff Mtg. 6:15pm-Worship 7:00pm-Education 7:15pm-Choir 8:00pm-HS Youth Group	6:30am-Men's Bible Study @ Fryn' Pan on W. 41 st St. 6:30pm-The Greatest Story	9:00am-The Greatest Story	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:45am- Worship 10:00am-Education 10:00am-Little Lambs 11:00am-Worship 2:00pm-Den Mtgs.			10:00am-Staff Mtg. 6:15pm-Worship 7:15pm-Choir *No Education	6:30am-Men's Bible Study @ Fryn' Pan on W. 41 st St. 6:30pm-The Greatest Story 6:30pm-Den Mtgs.	9:00am-The Greatest Story Family Retreat @ Joy Ranch	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8:45am- Worship 11:00am-Worship *No Faith 5	Presidents' Day *Spirit of Joy Closed		10:00am-Staff Mtg. 6:15pm-Family Camp Worship 7:00pm-Education 7:15pm-Choir 8:00pm-HS Youth Group	6:30am-Men's Bible Study @ Fryn' Pan on W. 41 st St. 6:30pm-The Greatest Story 6:30pm-Leadership Team Mtg.	9:00am-The Greatest Story	
24	25	26	27	28		
8:45am- Worship 10:00am-Education 11:00am-Worship *Food on the Fourth			10:00am-Staff Mtg. SoJ Serves Banquet 6:15pm-Worship 7:00pm-Education 7:15pm-Choir 8:00pm-HS Youth Group	6:30am-Men's Bible Study @ Fryn' Pan on W. 41 st St. 6:30pm-The Greatest Story		

TREASURES OF ITALY

INCLUDING THE PASSION PLAY OF OBERAMMERGAU

11 Days: May 28 - June 7, 2020



Hosted By
Rev. Jeffrey Eisele

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FOR A BROCHURE WITH FULL DETAILS, CONTACT OR DETACH & MAIL TO:

Rev. Jeffrey Eisele
Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church
2208 W. La Quinta Street
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Tel: (605) 333-2004 (Office)
Email: jeffeisele@spiritofjoy.net

Name: _____

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City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

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Email: _____

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