

February 2016

Windswept

Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church



Sensing the Jesus Way

*O taste and see that the LORD is good;
happy are those who take refuge in him. —Psalm 34:8*



Jeff Eisele

The Mission
of Spirit of Joy
Lutheran
Church is:

- To **WELCOME** people into a community of followers of Jesus Christ.
- To **GROW** with one another in faith and hope in Him.
- To **SEND out** one another as Jesus' compassionate servants in the world.

One of God's greatest gifts are the five senses God has given us to take in and enjoy all that God has made. What joy to see a prairie sunset, hear the melody of a favorite song, touch the hand of someone we love, smell a garden full of blooming flowers, or taste a delicious meal. As I write these words I am just touching a keyboard and seeing a computer screen; but the reminder of how I've experienced the world through my senses delights me with memories of sights, sounds, touches, aromas, and flavors.

We've been reminded in the past seasons of Christmas and Epiphany that in Jesus Christ the Word became flesh and moved into our neighborhood. That certainly means that God has come close to us. It also means the God who lives "on our block" makes God's self known in the same way we comprehend the rest of the world—through our five senses.

The church season of Lent begins this month on **Ash Wednesday, February 10th**. Starting that day, we're going to explore together in worship how God comes to us in Jesus Christ in ways we can experience through our senses. We will hear God's Word, but we will also taste the Lord's Supper, smell burned palm branches, feel streaks of ash on our foreheads, and see God's people with our masks down for a day.



On Wednesdays that follow we'll continue to use our senses to travel the Jesus Way through Lent. We'll experience the touch of Jesus that overcomes death; receive vision-correction from the Savior who makes the blind see; taste the flavor of abundance; hear a Word that penetrates the ears of dead people; and smell the gift of outrageously expensive perfume, poured out on Jesus.

Taste and see that the Lord is good, the writer of Psalm 34 sings. This season of Lent we will also hear, touch, and smell how that is true. I hope you will gather with us we sense together what it means to live the Jesus Way. JE

February Sunday Forums*

February 7 Annual Meeting—no forum

February 14—**President's Day weekend**—no forum (Joy Ranch Family camp weekend)

February 21—**Pastor Jessica Daum**—to introduce mission start, Table of Grace

February 28—**Reformation Roots**

We will continue the excellent **Reformation Roots** series to help lead us up to the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. We will resume with Martin Luther and the impact of his life and work, and continue the series through the season of Lent.



Note: We are sorry that due to health issues Dr. Ann Pederson from Augustana University is not able to be our guest forum speaker this winter. We wish Ann swift healing and we hope she will be able to join us as our speaker in the future.

***Sunday Forums** are for EVERYBODY. They are times of hospitality, a time to ask questions, to challenge conventional wisdom, to grow in faith, and to grow in community with one another.

We meet every Sunday (almost) at **10 am in the Galilee Room**—down the hall & across from the kitchen door.

Couple Checkup

What couple couldn't use a little tune-up now and then?

We know that marriage is a great blessing—and also takes a lot of work!



Watch for more information on a NEW small group that will incorporate both a private on-line assessment tool for you and your partner, and some follow-up conversations on some of the most common areas of concern or conflict in couple/married life. This tool can be used for those dating, engaged, or married. (And married for 4 months or 40+ years!)

Why participate?

The Couple Checkup will help couples discover their relationship strengths. Strengths are what enable couples to enjoy and continue developing a healthy relationship. It will also help identify issues that are threatening the vitality of their relationship and may need to be addressed.

And we'll have FUN together in our 4-5 weeks sessions.

Coming in February/March... Stay tuned!

Love is patient; love is kind;
love is not envious or boastful
or arrogant or rude.

It does not insist on its own way;
it is not irritable or resentful;
it does not rejoice in wrongdoing,
but rejoices in the truth.

It bears all things, believes all things,
hopes all things, endures all things.
Love never ends.

1 Corinthians 13: 4-8

Financial Statistics Thru December 31, 2015

Checking Account:	
General Fund	\$187,304.25
Building Fund	\$23,298.69
Donor Restricted	\$37,932.56
Sunday School	\$945.53
Petty Cash	\$200.00
Savings Accounts:	
Building	\$55,160.69
Donor Restricted	<u>\$79,514.27</u>
Total Cash Balance	\$384,355.99
Year-to-Date Income for Ministry	\$
Year-to-Date Ministry Expenses	\$507,224.34
Net Income/(Deficit) for Ministry	\$404.29

Comparing Facts and Figures

	November 2013	November 2014	November 2015
Attendance	1310	1746	1763
General Offering	\$32,322.91	\$42,906.16	\$41,208.08
Building Offering	\$34,653.50	\$12,384.33	\$12,845.33

Spirit of Joy Information

Pastor: Jeff Eisele
 Office Manager: Amy Orr
 Adult/Family Faith Formation: Katherine Eisele, AiM
 Children and Youth Faith Formation: Mike Haddican
 Outreach & Hospitality: Laura Phillips
 Worship Arts Coordinator: Jon Mattheis
 Worship Arts: Susan Wold Rohde, AiM
 Church Office: (605) 333-2004

Summer Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship: 8:45am & 10:15am
 Coffee & Fellowship in between services.
 No Wednesday Worship

Nursery available for children accompanied by parent.
 Location: 2208 W. LaQuinta Street
 Website: www.spiritofjoy.net

Leadership Team

(Minutes from the January 18, 2016 Meeting)

Unfinished Business

Preschool

- a. Discussed timing of establishing board and hiring director. Greg Bertsch made a motion to do a parallel search for a pre-school director and board members. Alison Sundall second. Motion carried.
- a. Director search team will include: Emily Learning, Katherine Eisele, a Ministry Resources team member, Adam Punt and Michele Vogel.

Partnership with Table of Grace

- a. Jim Stavenger made a motion that Spirit of Joy complete an official partnership agreement and pledge to assist Table of Grace. Adam Punt
- b. second. Motion carried.
- c. Pastor Jess Daum from Table of Grace will be our guest preacher February 21st.

New Business

- a. **Mission trip assistance for Brianna Hammerstrom.** Daryl Sopko made a motion that we allow \$1,000 to support Brianna. Chris Bergst second. Motion carried.
- b. ***Listen! God is Calling Campaign*** - We will plan a tactical approach on how to extend our support to this campaign at our next regular monthly meeting in March.
- c. **Establishment of Reserve Account and management of extra funds.**
- d. Greg Bertsch made a motion that SOJ will tithe 10% of our 2015 budget overage for a mission partner and to work to build up a 4-6 month reserve fund for emergency purposes. Adam Punt second. Motion carried.
- e. Chris Bergst will designate \$8,000 for gift, move \$135,000 from checking to a reserve fund, and maintain \$30,000 in checking for cash flow.
- f. **Leadership Team & Staff Retreat** will be held Saturday, February 20 from 10 am-2p.m.
- g. **Benevolence Payments** - the following payments will be made
 1. \$1,000 Seminary Student Support
 2. \$1,000 Kids Against Hunger
 3. \$1,000 Table of Grace
 4. \$1,000 Pueblo de Dios
 5. \$500 West Side Lutheran



Above Left: Lynn & Ron Risty



Above Right: Darin, Dena, Maren & Barrett Bueltel

At Right: Tom, Diane, Aidan and Maren Stadtfeld



Below: Ty, Jess and Eli Nelson

Join us for **SOJ Game Night** on Friday, February 11th from 6-9:00 pm. Bring whatever game you enjoy and a snack to share! We will have the ping pong table available as well! All ages are welcome!



Contact Laura with any questions laura@spiritofjoy.net



Below Left: Douglas, Elizabeth, Caleb & Benjamin Lynch

Below Right: Erik, Kristen, Carter & Lexi Nelson



Not Pictured:

Matt, Mandy, Kaydence & Camden Hagebock



Larry & Janna Brendtro

On Wednesday, Feb. 10, Spirit of Joy will serve breakfast at **The Banquet!** Sign up in the Gathering Space!

New at Spirit of Joy: Refit Cardio Dance Class! For women of all fitness levels ages



14 and up! Come in comfy clothes, bring your water bottle and be ready for a great time! 5:45 Every Monday evening in The Well.

Community Offering
For the month of February we will collect Hearty Soup to be distributed by **Food to You** in March. Please leave your donation in the basket in the church gathering area, or include in your Food on the 4th bag!
Thank You!

Food on the 4th Sunday will be February 28th! Join us in this opportunity to love our neighbors. Recyclable grocery bags are available throughout the month to pick up at Spirit of Joy. Grab a bag, fill it up and return it on the 28th. These offerings will be distributed to Food to You and to the Sioux Falls Food Pantry. Also available are bags to make Hygiene Kits for Food to You. Thank you for your continued generosity to these important ministries!

Prayers of the Church

Healing and Strength for:

Dennis Ellingsen, Jett Markman, Gloria Winterton, Leola Gabor, Marsha Kadlecik, Dominic Hagebock, Kerstin Schempp, Mike Kelley, Julie Vipond, and Debbie Gallipo.

Thanksgiving for:

*the baptisms of **Kaleb Bergst**, son of **Chris and Michelle Bergst**, and **Hudson Colwell**, son of **Josh and Marcy Colwell** on January 10th; and for the baptism of **Don Stanek Jr.** on January 24th

*Spirit of Joy's new **leadership team**, installed on January 10th

*new partners welcomed in January



Comfort for:

***Dawn Kruse** and family as they mourn the death of Dawn's father Reed.

***Sally Hanson** and family as they mourn the death of Sally's father Kenny.

***Dan Wheeler** and family as they mourn the death of Dan's mother Margaret

Guidance, Protection, Help and Encouragement for:

*for those who are homeless in our city

*for persons struggling with addictions, debt and other forms of bondage

*for our **partners in mission** in Sioux Falls, especially **Table of Grace** in Harrisburg, and **Pastor Jess Daum, Westside Lutheran Church** and **Pastor Heidi Binstock; Pueblo de Dios** and **Pastor Jeanette Clark;**

*for our bishops **David Zellmer** and **Elizabeth Eaton.**

*for sisters and brothers in our companion synods in **Cameroon and Nicaragua**

*for **Brianna Hammerstrom** as she prepares to participate in a mission trip to Haiti with others in Lutheran Campus Ministry at the University of Nebraska

February Words for Worship

February 7th—Transfiguration of Our Lord

Luke 9:28-36 [37-43]

Jesus is transfigured on the mountain

February 14th—First Sunday in Lent

Luke 4:1-13

The temptation of Jesus

February 21st—Second Sunday in Lent

Luke 13:31-35

A hen gathering her brood

February 28th—Third Sunday in Lent

Luke 13:1-9

The parable of the fig tree

Helping Hands Needed!

Every worship service is the work of many hands and we need more hands to help. If you have any interest in serving as an usher/greeter, communion assistant, offering counter, screen projection or reader, please see the sheets in the gathering space. We will provide training and find an experienced person to help mentor you in this new role.



Wednesdays in Lent

Come join us from 5:15-6:00 for a soup dinner and worship beginning at 6:15 every Wednesday in Lent. We will have a sign up sheet in the gathering space for people to help bring soup, bread and serve on those evenings.



Hymn Festival

A hymn festival will be held February 26th at 7:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Sioux Falls. Daniel Aune, organist from Christ Lutheran Church in Baltimore, MD, will leading the festival. All are welcome with a free-will offering being taken.



Spirit of Joy Library:

Contradictory King David



The Secret Chord by renowned author Geraldine Brooks is a strong novel imaginatively retelling the life of legendary King David. It is narrated by the prophet Nathan (mentioned in the books of Chronicles in the Old Testament). Nathan **has access to interview various people in David's** life--including his wives, his brothers, generals and even enemies. From these secondary characters, **Nathan collects a vivid picture of David's rise from** obscurity to fame and then decline into sad and **ailing old age. We see the contradictions in David's** life--his strong faith in God, his musical genius, his love for his family and friends versus the brutal and pitiless warrior, greedy, vain and stubborn.

This is a very interesting book which recreates the spirit of this Old Testament time and place and gives a human personality to the powerful but flawed **figure of King David. The author's language is rich** and almost poetic but also sometimes difficult because of archaic terms and place names and Hebrew spellings, such as Shaul for Saul, Shlomo for Solomon, Beit Lethem for Bethlehem.

Offering Counters Needed

Spirit of Joy is forming new teams to help count the offerings we receive each week in worship. This is another important, behind-the-scenes vital ministry opportunity. Our plan is to form teams of 4-5 persons who will share the counting for a month; those participating will be asked to help 2-3 times in a month, twice/year. Please contact Daryl Sopko at des4704@gmail.com, or Amy at info@spiritofjoy.net if you are interested.

**Annual Winter
Congregational Meeting**

Sunday, February 7 at 10:00am in between services. We hope you can join us!

Book Clubs & Studies

Evening Book Club will meet at 7 p.m. on **Tuesday, February 2** at the home of Pam Zimmel: 1009 Dove Tr. They will be discussing Welcome to the Great Mysterious by Lorna Landvik.

For February, The **Morning Book Group** will feature a 'reader's choice' of the works of C.S. Lewis; yes, The Narnia Series counts. They will meet Thursday, February 25th.

Men's Breakfast Bible Study

All Spirit of Joy men are invited to come for breakfast and conversation Thursday mornings, 6:30-8:00am at the Fryin' Pan on 41st Street.



**Because of God's Great Mercy
Stewardship Campaign Update**

Thank you to all of our partners who have responded so far to our invitation to make a **financial commitment to Spirit of Joy's** mission and ministry in 2016. *So far we've received commitments from 126 households totaling \$402,882.* Our goal is to receive commitments from 150 households. If you have not returned your estimate of giving card yet, please do so soon so we can continue to count on your support. Thank you!

Spirit of Joy Quilters

The SOJ Quilter's will be tying quilts Tuesday, February 2nd at 1pm in the WELL. All are welcome !



Winter Family Retreat

February 12-14

(President's Day Weekend, overnight
Friday and Saturday nights.)

Joy Ranch

Lutheran Bible Camp near Watertown, SD

“Why should I bring my family NORTH in February?”

1. Great resort-style accommodations.
2. Great food.
3. Great people—Joy Ranch staff and Spirit of Joy friends.
4. Enriching faith experiences for me and my family.
5. Outdoor and indoor fun time.
6. **It's cheaper than flying to Florida.**

More info (like cost and stuff) and/or sign up in the Gathering Area.
OR contact Katherine at family@spiritofjoy.net 333-2004.

Deadline to register: February 1st.



College Valentines Mailings!

February 6th, 9 am at Spirit of Joy

Bring 20 of something light, non-breakable,
Valentine-ish, and fun! We'll meet for one hour and
pack up cards and treats for our students
near and far.



College Scholarship Applications

Spirit of Joy Scholarship applications are now
available upon request or in the main office.
Students may re-apply every year for up to
four years. Deadline February 29.

Contact: family@spiritofjoy.net



Little Lambs Sunday School—February 21st at 10 am

This month's story—Jesus Loves Me

Infants, toddlers and preschoolers not old enough for Sprouts—all welcome to
come with parent(s), grandparent or caring adult.

Meet in the far SW classroom for this special celebration of **Jesus' LOVE!**

Upcoming Events for Children and Their Families

February 7—Little Lambs 10:00 am.

February 12-14—Winter Family Retreat at Joy Ranch

February 27—Saturday, 9 am, Kindergartener's Prayer Pillow Milestones Activity 9:00 am

February 28—Kindergarten Prayer Milestone Blessing at 8:45 and 11:00 am

February 28—Sweetheart Dinner for Spirit of Joy couples. Invite your sweetheart TODAY!

March 2 and 6—Lord's Prayer Milestone for 2nd Grade.

March 12—Saturday, 9 am, Holy Communion Instruction for 1st Grade with Pastor Jeff.



Sprouts Stories - Jesus & John the Baptist

We had great fun learning about John. Kids learned how John was the messenger and Jesus was the message. Just like John, we can prepare the way of the Lord and share the Good News too!

Cooking – Groups of brave kids got to taste one of **John the Baptist's favorite foods: bugs! Okay, they weren't really bugs, but they were sugar cookies** decorated to look like bugs.

Bible Games – Skillful participants navigated their way while blindfolded to “Pin the bug on John the Baptist's mouth”.

Start Thinking about Camp

It may be cold out, but it is time to start thinking about Summer Camp!

Spirit of Joy is blessed to have 2 camping ministries that serve our congregation: Lutherans Outdoors and Shetek Lutheran Ministries.

Whether you've given your child the gift of time at camp or not, it is never too late! Both Lutherans Outdoors and Shetek offer great opportunities for 1st graders – 12th graders.

I strongly encourage you to consider sending your child to a week of Bible Camp. Please check out www.losd.org and www.shetek.org for their summer programming and schedule.

Did you know...

- Spirit of Joy has scholarship money available for all campers.
- Spirit of Joy will be highlighting a few weeks of camp at Shetek, NeSoDak and Klein Ranch and it would be great to get a group of kids from SoJ to attend.
Be watching for the Camp Table—coming this February to a Gathering Space near you!

Calendar Dates to remember:

No Sprouts on:

- Wednesday, Feb. 10th – Ash Wednesday
- Sunday, Feb. 14th – **President's Day Break**

Family Game Night @ SoJ

–Friday, Feb. 19th 6-9pm

Elementary Sprouts Sing at Worship

- Sunday, Feb. 28th – End of 1st Service & the Beginning of 2nd Service
- Sunday, March 20th – 11am Palm Sunday
- Sunday, May 8th – End of 1st Service & the Beginning of 2nd Service
- *Preschool Sprouts Sing: Date TBA

Palm Sunday –

Intergenerational Prayer Stations
for Elementary Youth & Parents



For Sprouts on Palm Sunday, March 20th, **we're inviting parents and guardians to join** their child for the Sprouts Hour. Groups will travel to different rooms in the Education Hallway to experience a series of different Prayer Stations.

Chicago Mission Trip through Youth Works

Date of Trip: July 31 - August 5 (Sunday-Friday)

Cost of Trip: \$410 plus spending money
-Covers travel, lodging, meals in Chicago, programming

Who can attend?

We have spots for 2 adults and 11 youth. Youth eligible are current 8th graders – 12th graders.

What will we be doing?

- Partner with local orgs. to meet needs in the community.
- Serve at food shelf, clothing dist. center or soup kitchen.
- **Lead programming for a weekly children's program or elderly care facility.**

How do I sign up my high school student?

- Email Mike Haddican (mike@spiritofjoy.net) to reserve a spot for your teenager.
- Bring in a \$100 deposit to the church office.
- Our group will receive some budgeted funds to help pay for the trip. We will also be planning 1 or 2 fundraisers to help all participants work to pay for their trip.

Sunday Funday!

Teens & Parents – **Don't forget** that our Fellowship time is open to you each Sunday from 5-9pm. In order to host Sunday Funday, Tim Krause does need adult volunteers from 5-9pm. Sign up by contacting him at skatimmy737@gmail.com

Fleece Needed at Youth Group

Youth are asked to bring in fleece blankets for a Tie Blanket project that will be done on Feb. 24th and 26th.

Sizes can be a square of:

- 1 ¼ yard -1 ½ yard
- 1 ¾ yard, -2 yards

Blankets made will go to Project Warm-Up, which distributes blankets to agencies that work with children and youth.

High School Overnight @ Spirit of Joy

The teens have been asking for an overnight, and now we have a date set!

Our overnight at the church will be Feb. 26-27 from 7pm Friday – 7am Saturday.

Our theme will be **“Recharge”** and the discussion will revolve around remembering and focusing on the promises made at the Affirmation of Baptism.

Cost of the event will be \$20 which covers Lazer Tag and food.

What is needed: Adult drivers and chaperones for the evening or the morning will be needed. **If you're a night owl or an early bird, I'd love to get your help whether for the whole night or a few hours.**

Need to contact Mike Haddican? Email: mike@spiritofjoy.net
Check out the Youth Website: www.sojyouthsf.weebly.com

February Birthdays

Malena Clementson	Brad Thedens	Tony Fox	Alison Sundall
Elizabeth Jensen	Jayna Fitzgibbons	Sydney Koolstra	Landon Dinger
Brayden Kills-A-Hundred	Blaine Wittrock	Alice Christensen	Gabrielle Munzke
Briggs Appel	Matthew Jensen	Michelle	Terry Phillips
Landon Krzmarzick	Erin Schrader	Stanek	Kerstin Schempp
Delaney Miller	Dick Sorum	Erik Christensen	Rick Bettencourt
Madelyn Eisenbeisz	Dan Wheeler	Beth Hagen	Alexis Herr
Ryne Witkop	Kevin Wheeler	Shannon Hill	Lisa Olsen
Bennett Geraets	Alyssa Schut	Robyn Starks-Holcomb	Mallory McCollister
Stacie Swanstrom	Emmett Backstrom	Judy Christensen	Brinley Roskam
Scott Voss	Sheri Hofer	April Pedersen	Graciella Breidenbach
Nikki Boraas	Tom Kelley	Chris Bergst	Marjorie Jensen
Johnathan Stanek	Sadie Roth	Wilson Munzke	Avery Merrigan
Samuel Sutton	Ronald Beckman	Heather Weeg	Kennedi Miller
Clay Thedens	Evie Brouwer-Thomson	Jeremy Freeseemann	Taylor Thomas

February Anniversaries

Ryan & Amy Eisenbeisz	02/21
Dean & Shirley Moser	02/23
Corey & Kelly Ballew	02/29



Welcome to our 2016 Leadership Team!



Sarah Werner
President



Jim Stavenger
President Elect



Michele Vogel
Secretary



Chris Bergst
Treasurer



Adam Punt
Growth Team



Daryl Sopko
Ministry Resources



Alison Sundall
Outreach Team



Greg Bertsch
Worship Team



Marsha Kadlecik
Hospitality Team

Thank you for
serving the
Spirit of Joy
community!

Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church

Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church
2208 W. Laquinta Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57108

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Return Service Requested

Ash Wednesday Worship

February 10th

5:30 pm and 7:00 pm

Imposition of Ashes
and Holy Communion



Join us on Wednesdays in Lent, beginning February 17th, for a soup
and sandwich supper from 5:15 to 6:00 pm

followed by Lenten Evening Prayer from 6:15 to 7:00 pm.