

January 2016

# Windswept

Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church



Laura Phillips

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.

*"I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it." John 14:13-14*

Happy New Year! This seems to be the time of year when many of us think about what was and what may come, and we resolve-sometimes successfully and sometimes not so much-to try to **"better ourselves"**, quite often in the area of living a healthier lifestyle. Recently I acquired a little Christmas book written in 1970 by Harold E. Kohn, a pastor and artist who clearly loved God and loved nature. In it is this poem titled *Refresh and Revive Us*, and this is just what I am inspired to pray for 2016: that God would give me the gift of **seeing God's wonderful** works and a heart of gratitude and awe to go with it!

Peace and Joy in 2016!  
LJP

O God, our Father,  
Refresh and revive  
our wilted sense of wonder.  
It has become tired and dull  
while beholding daily miracles  
of dawn and darkness  
sunset and starlight,  
seed time and harvest,  
the whole pageantry of life  
and  
above all else  
the wondrous mystery  
of Thy patience and mercy,  
until  
everyday miracles seem  
wonderful no longer.  
Grant us the gift  
of seeing all things  
as if for the first time  
so that  
wonder and delight  
may not fade in us  
with the passing years.  
Let daily life be punctuated  
and adorned with exclamation points.  
**Convert our casual "So what?"**  
to glad astonishment.  
Keep our souls awake  
to the excitement of existence  
in Thy world,  
Aware of Thy nearness  
and  
Alert to all the dealings  
we have with the Eternal.  
No matter how long or short  
our lives may be,  
Give them great depth, and towering height:  
Depth of insight,  
understanding and  
appreciation  
and  
Height of aspiration,  
Until we see every place  
as holy ground  
and  
All of life a sacrament.  
Through Christ, our Lord.  
Amen.

## January Sunday Forums\*

### Simply Wait

January 17 — School Mentoring? Me?

January 24 — St. Francis House—News

December 31 — Sarah Werner—Shares her  
2015 Mission Trip to Jamaica

Coming in February:



**Dr. Ann Milliken Pederson**, Professor of Religion at Augustana College, will be our special forum guest.

Plan to attend Sunday Forums **February 21 and 28 at 10 am** for **Dr. Pederson's** presentations.

Dr. Pederson will be sharing some of her research and writing on

### Embodiment and Incarnation

What does it mean that we are embodied creations? What does it mean for us that God **became embodied in God's son, Jesus?** Let's let **Dr. Pederson** guide us through this fascinating exploration.

**For these two forums, we'll meet in The WELL.**

**\*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.

## Spiritual Growth

### Two New, for You

Looking for a small group to share caring conversations, exercise your curiosity, and explore some places in the Bible? Coming in January:

### The Greatest Story— Bible Introduction



**Beginning Thursday, January 14 at 6:30 pm, and Saturday, January 16 at 9 am, we'll** begin exploring the New Testament—the **Jesus story**. If you'd like to be a part of this non-judgmental, fun group of Bible-learners, this is for you. You may choose Thursdays or Saturdays.



### Gospel of Luke

**"Why Was Jesus Born?"**  
**"What Was Jesus Doing?"**  
**"Why Must Jesus Die?"**  
**"How Did Jesus'**  
Resurrection  
**Change the World?"**

Friday Morning Bible conversations will begin **Friday, January 8th** from **9 am to 10:15 am**. Join us to explore **Luke's' Gospel** which has given us some of our most beloved passages: The Christmas story, **The Good Samaritan, The Prodigal Son...**

This is an eight week series which will lead us through Lent and Easter. Grow in faith with other friends at Spirit of Joy. All are welcome.

## Financial Statistics Thru November 30, 2015

### Checking Account:

General Fund	\$106,967.88
Building Fund	\$2,845.33
Donor Restricted	\$34,243.41
Sunday School	\$1,318.42
Petty Cash	\$200.00

### Savings Accounts:

Building	\$62,169.34
Donor Restricted	<u>\$79,514.27</u>

**Total Cash Balance** **\$287,258.65**

Year-to-Date Income for Ministry \$457,328.51

Year-to-Date Ministry Expenses \$456,924.22

**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  
Interim Ministry Assistant: 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](http://www.spiritofjoy.net)

## Leadership Team

### *Minutes from the December 15, 2015 Meeting*

#### Unfinished Business

**Next Steps – Spirit of Joy Preschool**—Adam Punt will approach Emily & Katherine for a Pre-School Board job description/mission statement and gather possible board member names.

#### New Business

#### Addition to SoJ Soul Script, explanation to Key Message

**#2** -Sarah Werner spoke of the addition to the explanation.

*-Bill Webb made a motion to adopt the change to the SoJ Soul Script. Adam Punt second. Motion carried.*

#### Benevolence Payments

*Adam Punt made a motion to pay the remaining unpaid benevolence:*

*\$1500 benevolence to Missionary Support*

*\$500 benevolence to St. Francis House*

*\$340.14 benevolence to the Banquet*

*\$1000 benevolence to LSS*

*\$1000 benevolence to Habitat for Humanity*

*\$2500 benevolence to Lutheran Outdoors*

*\$950 benevolence to Charis/Mobile Food Bank*

*\$2000 benevolence to ELCA World Hunger*

*Bill Webb second. Motion carried.*

**Leadership Team Meeting Schedule – 2016** -The Leadership team will meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month in 2016.

-All 2015 & 2016 leaders will meet January 18, 2016.

-2015 leaders will give a 2015 overview of their team for the February Congregational Meeting.

## 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 118 households totaling \$375,532.*** 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!

Save the Date! On Wednesday, Feb. 10, Spirit of Joy will serve breakfast at **The Banquet**.

Do you like to scrapbook, knit, crochet or watch other people be crafty? Join us for Spirit of Joy Craft Night on Friday, January 8th from 6-11:00 pm. Bring **whatever craft you're working on** and a snack to share. Friends are welcome! Contact Laura with any questions [laura@spiritofjoy.net](mailto:laura@spiritofjoy.net)



## Community Offering

For the month of December we will collect PASTA to be distributed by **Food to You** in February.

Please leave your donation in the basket in the church gathering area, or include in your Food on the 4th bag!

Other items needed currently are: peanut butter, pasta, ziplock baggies-quart or gallon size, toilet paper and bars of soap.



*Thank You!*



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!

**REFIT® is a women's cardio-dance** group that seeks to cultivate community and develop healthy relationships through fitness. REFIT® uses positive music and comes equipped with post-workout encouragement. REFIT® is all about engaging the mind, body, and soul. Join certified REFIT® instructor, Karla Lundell, at 5:45 p.m. on Monday nights starting January 11th!

Are you looking for a Church Home? Our next **Discovery Class** will be held on Sunday January 10th from 3:00-6:30 pm. Come to learn about the core beliefs, values and ministries of Spirit of Joy! Supper will be served. To register please contact Laura at 333-2004 or [laura@spiritofjoy.net](mailto:laura@spiritofjoy.net).

**Food on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday** will be January 24th! 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 24th during offering. 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, Dominic Hagebock, Kerstin Schempp, Gary Molzen, Pete Eisele, Jim Welch, Mike Kelley, Julie Vipond, Joan Bjorklund and Debbie Gallipo.**

### *Thanksgiving for:*

\*the baptisms of **Rowan and Aftyn Turner**, son and daughter of **Jade and Cole Turner**, on November 1st.

\*the baptism of **Jaeya Lee Brende**, daughter of **Jamie and Jeff Brende** on November 15th.

\*the baptism of **Greta Lee Ann Merrigan**, daughter of **Tricia and John Merrigan**, on November 22nd.

### *Comfort for:*

\*family and friends of those killed in the terrorist attacks in **Beirut and Paris**

### *Guidance, Protection, Help and Encouragement for:*

\*for young people struggling with loneliness, addiction, mental illness, or finding a place to belong  
 \*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**



## *Baptismal Font Help*

We are currently looking for volunteers to help with the cleaning of the baptismal font each month. Our hope is to get enough volunteers that each person will only be responsible for cleaning once a quarter. Cleaning takes approximately 1 hour. If you would like to help please contact Amy at 333-2004 or [info@spiritofjoy.net](mailto:info@spiritofjoy.net).

## *January Words for Worship*

### January 3rd-Second Sunday of Christmas

John 1:1-18

*God with us: the incarnation of the Word*

### January 10th-Baptism of Our Lord

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

*The baptism of Jesus with the descent of the Holy Spirit*

### January 17th-Second Sunday after Epiphany

John 2:1-11

*The wedding at Cana*

### January 24th-Third Sunday after Epiphany

Luke 4:14-21

*Jesus reads from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah*

### January 31st-Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Luke 4:21-30

*Jesus says a prophet is not accepted in his hometown*

## *Sunday Servants Needed!*

We are currently in need of volunteers to help fill in spots of our Sunday Servant lists. If you have any interest in serving as an usher/greeter, communion assistant, offering counter, or worship projection please talk to Jon or email him at [jon@spiritofjoy.net](mailto:jon@spiritofjoy.net). We will provide training and find an experienced person to help mentor you in this new role.



## Junior/Senior High Choir

SoJ will be having a choir for middle school and senior high students. We will rehearse on Wednesdays at 5:45 p.m. in the sanctuary beginning on January 13th. Please talk to Jon or email him ([jon@spiritofjoy.net](mailto:jon@spiritofjoy.net)) if your child has an interest in being part of the group.







## Spirit of Joy Library: Choosing Kindness



Wonder by R.J. Palacio is an interesting and uplifting novel for students about ages 8-12. It tells the story of 10-year old Auggie Pullman, who was born with severe facial deformities. Because of many surgeries and other physical problems, Auggie had been home schooled up until fifth grade. Now he must face starting middle school and learning to handle all the crises of that year--cliques, popularity issues, bullying, etc.--and his classmates are also tested as they learn to accept him as an ordinary kid with an extraordinary face.

The story is told from several first-person perspectives, including Auggie himself, his sister, and some of his **classmates. Auggie's parents, teachers and principal** are also important characters. The author uses realistic conversation and humor to make the point that anyone and everyone can benefit from being treated, and treating others, with more kindness.

## REACH Support

For the past several years members of Spirit of Joy have helped support teachers in India at the REACH Home. The support involves \$120 a year to provide **an extra \$10 per month to add to the teacher's** monthly income. This year we are requesting the same support. Each teacher receives an extra \$10 a month from these gifts added to their monthly \$50 income. Any help you could provide is very much appreciated. This REACH Home is run by Kusuma Paul, a personal friend of Dennis and Sandy Ellingsen. She houses, feeds, educates and cares for 300 orphans in India, and these teachers are a vital part of her ministry and calling. Thank you for your consideration. Checks can be made out to Spirit of Joy. Thank you to all those who have supported this program both this year and in the past!



## Book Clubs & Studies

**Evening Book Club** will meet at 7 p.m. on **Tuesday, January 5** in the Spirit of Joy Library. They will be discussing Lila by Marilynne Robinson.

**Morning Book Group** will meet January 28 to discuss A Girl Named Zippy by Hawen Kimmel. We meet at 9 AM in the church library.

### 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.



## Opportunity for Spirit of Joy Women

You are invited to come to Caribou Coffee at 28<sup>th</sup> & Minnesota Monday, January 7 at 3:00 for informal fellowship with other SOJ women. Meet new people and reconnect with others. Everyone welcome!



## A Thank You From the Markman Family

Dear Spirit of Joy family,

We can't express enough how grateful we are for the generous gifts that each of you have bestowed upon us. The prayers, the donation of time to help, the meals, and the monetary donations all help with Jett's battle against leukemia. We are so fortunate to be part of such a thoughtful and loving family. Thank you!

Love, The Markmans

Philippians 2:3-4



## Our Baptisms

What exactly happens to us on the day we are baptized?

**First, let's remember that our baptism is a GIFT** from God. Baptism is like a gift package filled with beautiful presents from God:

- Friendship with God
- The presence of Christ
- The Holy Spirit, empowerment
- Forgiveness
- A home, family, household
- Identity
- Resurrection, eternal life
- **New birth and...**
- The glorious promise that we are children of God, and nothing in all creation will separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. \*

On **January 10th** we will celebrate the baptism of Jesus and also the gifts of our own baptisms. We especially celebrate with those baptized in 2015. If you have questions about baptism, or have not been baptized, you are welcome to visit with Pastor Jeff or one of our ministry staff.

**God's gift of baptism is for us all!**

Katherine Eisele,  
Associate in Ministry

\*from "Let the Children Come" by Daniel  
Erlander, [www.danielerlander.com](http://www.danielerlander.com)



## 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](mailto:family@spiritofjoy.net) 333-2004.



## Little Lambs Sunday School—January 17 at 10 am

**This month's story—Jesus is Baptized**

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 baptism.

## Upcoming Events for Children and Their Families

January 10—Anniversary of Baptism Milestone 8:45 and 11:00 am. Activity at 10 am.

January 17—Little Lambs Sunday School—10 am. "Jesus is Baptized."

January 17—School Mentoring? Me? Sunday Forum for parents, grandparents, caring adults.

February 12-14—Winter Family Retreat at Joy Ranch. See above for details.





### Sprouts Stories - Jesus Is Born!

The Elementary Sprouts celebrated Jesus' birth on Dec. 16th and 20th by hearing stories of the Christmas Story, they played some Minute to Win it games and they created these Christmas banners. The banners are on display in the sanctuary for the Christmas season—check them out!

Sprouts starts up again on Jan. 6th (Wednesday) and Jan. 10th (Sunday)

### Shepherding-

This year we're asking all parents to sign up 5 times to Shepherd in a classroom. We've had a lot of success with this already. Way to go parents! Anytime you can sign up to assist, please do. We need more assistance in our classrooms and our expectation is that if your child is in the church building for Sprouts, you are in the church building as well.

### Drop Off & Pick Up-

A parent or MS/HS sibling must drop off and pick up their child at their classroom door. Children should not be expected to go to the parking lot or to the drive up spot alone.



### Sprouts Christmas Program—Dec. 13th “Just A Little Christmas”



### Sunday Funday!

Spirit of Joy will be open for High School youth from 5-9pm on Sunday Nights! Teens are invited to come over to study, pray, rest, read a book, watch a movie together, play games and more!

Adult volunteers to help host the teens should contact Tim Krause at [skatimmy737@gmail.com](mailto:skatimmy737@gmail.com). A background check is necessary for all adults who wish to help. More info about this opportunity can be found at [www.sojyouthsf.weebly.com](http://www.sojyouthsf.weebly.com). January dates for Sunday Funday include Jan. 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st.

### Amazing Grace Race results:

**And the winner of the Race was... everybody!**



One of the best lessons our teens can learn is to help others, put your wants aside and to focus on somebody else's needs.



On the night of our race, the youth group did the following random acts of kindness:

- 1) Give a roll of quarters to someone at a laundromat
- 2) Solve riddles and puzzles at Sioux Falls landmarks
- 3) Give a \$20 gas gift card to somebody at a gas station
- 4) Sing "Frosty the Snowman" in Falls Park
- 5) Purchase a gift for a child in need
- 6) Pay for the meal of the car behind them at a fast food restaurant



Need to contact Mike Haddican? Email: [mike@spiritofjoy.net](mailto:mike@spiritofjoy.net)  
Check out the Youth Website: [www.sojyouthsf.weebly.com](http://www.sojyouthsf.weebly.com)

## January Birthdays

Star Munch	Amy Stockberger	Jack Entenman	Connie Becker
Kristen Schoeszler	Miranda Boraas	Lori Entenman	Jeffrey Holcomb
Tricia Miller	Heather Johnson	Jack Detert	Brad Mair
Mallory Vickery	Char Sorum	Chad Roskam	Heather Vander Helm
Lincoln Ahrendt	Hope Colwell	Avery Cheatum	Leonardo Haffner
Dee Brieher	Michelle Gardner	Lisa Voss	Josephine Spencer
Kaden Kittams	Arabella Larsen	Bill Webb	Marilya Namanny
Sara Mayer	Kelly Ryan	Elizabeth Whealy	Mikaela Nolmans
Randy Gruenhagen	Jake Thompson	Daisja Needles	Sally Hanson
Austin Olsen	Justin Fink	Bergen Rehnke	Kari Munzke
Mary Tranberg	Pam Walton	Gabrielle Ahrendt	Marilyn Gannon
Brian Walton	Unter Kadlecik	Mike Munzke	Bailey Punt
Greg Alvine	Jennifer Schut	Rebecca Peppel	
Brian Boraas	Larry Schoeszler	Kailyn Roskam	
Gary Ramse	Katelyn Schut	Meghan Krull	
	Gina Sheik	Caleb Vickery	

## January Anniversaries

Rick Lundberg & Peg Preston	01/09
Wade & Mylynn Hanson	01/13
Michelle Gardner & Tom Slattery	01/17
Jeb & Judy Christensen	01/25
TJ & Jay Von Wald	01/27
Mike & Mary Evanson	01/29



*Spirit of Joy publicizes birthdays and anniversaries in our newsletter as a way to encourage our partners to pray for one another throughout the year. If you have a July birthday or anniversary that is not included here, please contact the church office at 333-2004 or email us at: [info@spiritofjoy.net](mailto:info@spiritofjoy.net)*

## 2016 Newsletter Changes

In order to be good stewards of the gifts and contributions made to Spirit of Joy, we have taken a closer look at the high cost of printing and mailing the newsletter. In response, some changes will be made in the upcoming year. The newsletter will be available online at <http://spiritofjoy.net/newsletters/> rather than mailed to all partners. In an attempt to keep people well informed of upcoming events, our website and social media pages will be updated regularly. We recognize that not all partners use email or the internet regularly, so printed newsletters will be available at the church for those who prefer a paper copy. If partners would prefer to be mailed the newsletter rather than picking one up please contact Amy at the SOJ office.

Feel free to contact Amy at the Spirit of Joy office with any questions regarding these changes.



# Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church

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

Non Profit Org  
U.S. Postage PAID  
Sioux Falls, SD  
Permit No. 7771

Return Service Requested

## We Celebrate Baptism

### Anniversary of Baptism Milestone

### January 10, 2016



Was your child baptized in 2015?  
You are invited to celebrate this milestone!  
Children will receive a blessing during  
worship services at 8:45 am and 11:00 am.  
*Family activity with photos taken, 10 am in the sanctuary!*