

SPIRIT OF JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH

2208 W. LaQuinta Street | Sioux Falls, SD 57108

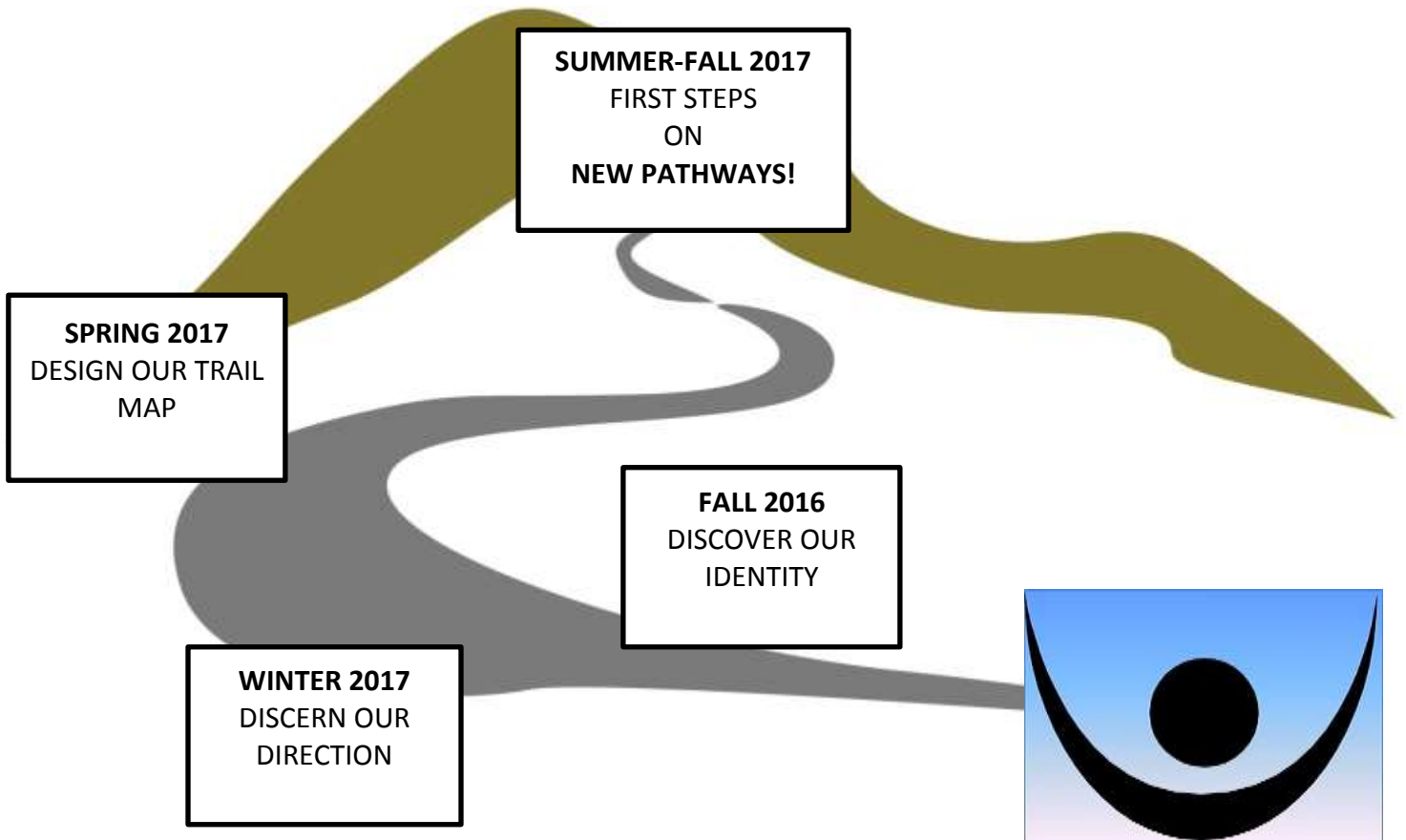
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MINISTRY TRAIL MAP

Dear Spirit of Joy Partners:

As our congregation celebrates **fifteen years of mission and ministry** this year, we have also begun to look forward with anticipation to what God will do with us in the next decade to change lives with love and grace. The “trail map” that follows has been put together after many months of listening, praying, and preparing a plan for walking together into God’s preferred future for Spirit of Joy. Please take some time to read through the timeline, our purpose, perspectives and priorities, and the seven pathways we intend to travel. Please also prayerfully consider what ways God might be calling you to share the journey ahead.

OUR PROCESS



Our **PURPOSE** is to

- *welcome* people into a community of followers of Jesus Christ;
- *grow* with one another in faith and hope in Him;
- *send* out one another as Jesus' compassionate servants in the world.

Our **PERSPECTIVES**

- Jesus Christ is the way to life.
- All people matter to God and so they matter to us.
- Following Jesus is a life-long, growing experience.
- Every Jesus follower is called to and gifted for ministry.
- God is continually at work in us to transform the world.

Our **PRIORITIES**

- Passionate Worship
- Radical Hospitality
- Lifelong Faith Formation
- Extravagant Generosity
- Bold Service



Our purpose, perspectives and priorities set the stage for setting goals that align with our story, and are timely and transformational. Goals are essentially dreams with a deadline, providing a trail map for how we intend to move forward in ministry together to join what God is already doing in our community and in the world.

2017-18 MINISTRY GOALS

OUR TRAIL MAP FOR MOVING FORWARD

PATHWAY 1-PASSIONATE WORSHIP

Goal: Extend worship into daily life

1. Increase promotion of faith forming and worship resources for use at family tables and in homes (Fall 2017).
2. Resume making worship connections between faith, Christian vocation, and daily work (Fall 2017).
3. Develop and offer class(es) on prayer practices, opportunities to pray together, and post prayer resources on website and social media (2018).

Goal: Engage all senses and learning styles in worship

1. Recruit, equip, and launch creative arts team (Summer/Fall 2017).
2. Create calendar of ways various forms of artistic expression will be used to communicate the Gospel message in worship over liturgical year (2018).

The Next Mile-Increase intergenerational leadership (2018-2019).

PATHWAY 2-RADICAL HOSPITALITY

Goal: Strengthen our welcome

1. Create and implement a plan for encouraging worship guests to become new partners, and new partners to become fully engaged in the life of the congregation (Summer/Fall 2017).
2. Improve website to make it more inviting and engaging for people looking for a new church home (Summer/Fall 2017).
3. Conduct interviews with all new partners (Summer 2017).
4. Develop and implement an ongoing process to help partners identify interests, gifts and passions to better equip them for ministry inside and outside the congregation (2018).

The Next Mile-Energize our inviting strategies and practices (2018).

PATHWAY 3-LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION

Goal: Launch new small groups

1. Evaluate existing small groups (Spring 2017).
2. Explore needs/interests for new small groups (Spring/Summer/Fall 2017).
3. Launch new groups for grief support, new partners (Fall 2017).

Goal: Increase milestones celebrations

1. Order and read adult milestones manual (Spring 2017).
2. Assess interest/options for introducing new adult milestones (Fall 2017).
3. Gather and share milestone stories, and launch adult milestone (2018).

The Next Mile-Develop and launch servant leadership/discipleship school in cooperation with other churches (2018-2019).

PATHWAY 4-EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY

Goal: Grow our generosity

1. Research, choose, and introduce alternative options for financial giving (Summer 2017).
2. Assess and reprioritize connections between benevolence giving and congregational involvement with community partners (Fall 2017)
3. Create year-round stewardship plan that addresses finances, creation care, and use of time inside and outside the congregation (Winter 2018)
4. Create library of stories of serving and generosity, and share them at least monthly in worship and on social media platforms (2018).
5. Create master list and manual of ministry opportunities (2018)

PATHWAY 5-BOLD SERVICE

Goal: Focus our sending

1. Identify where partners' current priorities for outreach (Summer 2017).
2. Identify and promote ways for partners to deepen relationships with neighbors in need beyond our walls and neighborhood (Fall 2017)
3. Research and share options for participating in Lutheran Social Services' refugee resettlement (Fall 2017)
4. Begin annual review of partner ministry engagement (2018)

The Next Mile-Create new opportunities to engage partners of all ages in intergenerational ministry (2018-2019)

PATHWAY 6-IMPROVE CHURCH COMMUNICATIONS

Goal: Develop communication strategies for all ministries

1. Recruit a communications team and paid coordinator (Summer 2017).
2. Develop a comprehensive communication plan (Fall 2017)
3. Update website, email communication, and social media to better communicate Spirit of Joy stories (2018).

PATHWAY 7-ASSESS FACILITY NEEDS

Goal: Create a plan to address future facility needs.

1. Form a building expansion task force to obtain an architectural assessment of facility needs (Summer 2017).
2. Obtain an architectural assessment of facility needs (Fall 2017).
3. Create facilities enhancement proposal to share with partners (2018).