



Dream Big

Preparing to Dream Big

August 3, 2025

Luke 5:1-11

One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God. He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

Message Notes

1. Who/Where are you?
2. Ask "Why" not just "What"
3. Seek God's perspective

Food for Thought

Dreams are not just for certain times in our lives, when everything is great. Dreams are a healthy part of our lives whatever we are currently going through.

Who/where are you in life right now? Not just your titles or labels or the geography of where you are... What is your stage of life, struggles, joys, questions, concerns? Consider your current circumstances.

When it comes to dreams, we often ask the question, '*What* are my dreams.' In addition to asking the 'what' question, ask the 'why' question. Why would certain dreams be a part of God's plan? Why would he call you to certain tasks or dreams?

Sometimes we look for *our* dreams. What does it look like to ask the question of what *God's* dreams are for your life?

STILL WATERS exists to **FIND** the lost, **RELEASE** the captive and **DEVELOP** disciples of Jesus

Still Waters Church | 3617 Scenic Road, PO Box 406, Jackson, WI 53037 | 262-677-1311

Worship Hours: Sunday 9:00 am & 10:30 am

Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9am-2pm

Happy Birthday!

Aug 4	Steve Schmidt
Aug 6	Tom Stodola
Aug 7	Sue Breuer, Lisa Paulson
Aug 8	Jacob Jones

Happy Anniversary!

Aug 3	John & Stephanie Carter
Aug 4	Dave & Sue Washnesky
Aug 6	Bruce & Emily Jordan, Wayne & Dolly Schultz, Gary & Pat Swanstrom

	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Communion</u>
Sunday 9am	Sandra Grasse Diana Schoen	Al & Mary Helsell	Al & Mary Helsell Sandra Grasse & Diana Schoen
10:30am	Debbie Drews Linda Kleinhans	Don & Debbie Koloski	Don & Debbie Koloski Debbie Drews & Linda Kleinhans

Church Website



Online Giving



Greetings, Still Waters Family and Friends! Question: What would happen if we could, even in the midst of the struggles and challenges, find space in our spirits to open our hearts and minds and dream? Or dream *again*? We are starting a series this weekend called, "Dream Big." This is not a series where we just try to think of more stuff to do... It's a series where we learn how, in a realistic way, to open our hearts and spirits to the possibilities that God has for our lives and for God's church called Still Waters. We invite you to join us this weekend, as we seek to find that spirit of openness to God's healing, grace, and possibilities. We'll also hear testimony from Robin Olson and Nancy Oreshack regarding some of their dreams! (We're planning on having sharing from different folks each week of the series, addition to the message each week.) I look forward to seeing you this weekend!

Here are more details of other upcoming opportunities:

Summer Walk 'n Connect

Join us for our Summer Walk and Connect on **Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m.** we meet in the church lobby and together we'll walk on the path around our church property, enjoying nature, each other, and a healthy way to start our day. That walk takes about 20 minutes. For any interested, after our walk, Pastor Lori will lead us for 15 minutes in devotion time outside, using the "Prayers from Iona" resource. Open your day with friends, community, connection, and God! See Robin Olson or Pastor Lori for details. Sign up on the Connection Card or online.

Family Support Group

This group is a support group for people who have loved ones affected with addiction(s). Meeting the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. here at Still Waters Church, it is a casual gathering to share experiences, thoughts, and feelings with others in your situation. **Next meeting is Thursday, August 7, 5:00 p.m.** Confidentiality and anonymity are observed. Come as you are and when you can. See Ron or Ann Naab with questions.

The Flock, Sunday August 10, 5:00 p.m.

Fellowship and Informational Meeting for Youth, Parents, and Siblings

"The Flock" is the name given to a monthly gathering for an informational meeting for youth, parents, and siblings. Snacks available. Sign up online or on the Connection Card.

Two Week Bible Overview!

Have you ever wanted to get the 'big picture' of the Bible? It's good to look at individual passages, but how does that fit into the whole Biblical narrative? Upon request, we'll spend one week looking at the Old Testament, and one week looking at the New Testament. Pastor Lori shared this class years ago, and it has been requested that we have this again! We'll meet **Mondays, August 11, and August 25, from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.** Pastor Lori facilitating. Sign up online or on the Connection Card.

Feeding America, August 13th

Come join us as we feed a couple hundred families in about an hour! Our next Feeding America is Wednesday, August 13th, 1:00 p.m. meeting in the church lobby to receive several pallets of food and distribute. On-the-job training available! Sign up on the Connection Card or Online.

Foundations Retreat, Rock Island Wisconsin

This year will be our 3rd trip to Rock Island which is part of the Wisconsin State Parks system and is a beautiful island. **Dates are Sunday, August 17 - Thursday, August 21**, open to incoming 6th graders through seniors in high school. **Commissioning will be August 10, at the 10:30 service.** This 4 day trip is designed to teach our youth how they can slow down and find a deeper connection to God. On the island they will experience a 4 day off-the-grid, semi-wilderness experience including

emphasis in the following areas. Prayer, Scripture, Worship, Witness and Love of God and People. The youth will also lead a Worship service on the Beach. Fee is \$150 per person. Contact Lisa for details. Sign up on the Connection Card or website.

Men's Breakfast, Wednesday, August 20th, 8:30 a.m.

Men are invited to this monthly men's breakfast, 3rd Wednesday at 8:30 a.m., meeting at a local restaurant (which switches from month to month). Contact John Haas atjxhaas@yahoo.com or 262-617-7004 to sign up for this month's breakfast! (John calls the restaurant to make a reservation, so please contact him by Tuesday, August 20th.)

Youth Sunday- Dream Big- Push Through Setbacks

Our youth are gearing up to lead us in worship on Sunday, August 24, both worship services. They will bring the message and lead us in Scripture, prayer, and music. The message will focus on finding and re-invigorating our dreams, and specifically pushing through setbacks. We all have those! We invite you to come out and support our youth, as we continue to be so proud of their spiritual growth and leadership.

Backpack Blessing, August 24

Mark your calendar... On Sunday, August 24, we will have a "Backpack Blessing." We'll pray for our students during worship, and *after* the second service we'll go outside to pray and start the school year off with a celebration of some Jesus Confetti! Students, bring your backpacks, and we'll offer **prayers for students and school staff and families!** All are welcome, come and support our students and families and school staff! Meet us behind the church for a prayer and celebration!

Family Fun Day, Sunday, August 31

On Sunday, August 31st from noon until 2pm, Still Waters Youth Ministries is hosting an outdoor family event complete with a campfire, and family games for all ages. We'll cook hotdogs and enjoy our fire pit and try out a game of gaga ball. We will also have volleyball, badminton, pickleball and several other fun games. This is our Labor Day fun day. Contact Lisa with questions at swym2019@gmail.com. Bringing food is not required, but if you'd like to bring a side dish, you can sign up on the band app with what food you'll bring. All are welcome, and feel free to just show up!

Brat Fry Youth Ministry Fundraiser

Stop by Piggly Wiggly, Slinger location, on **Saturday, September 6, 10:00 a.m - 2:00 p.m.** for our youth ministry fundraiser! Proceeds from sales this day will benefit Still Waters Youth Ministry!

Sharing from Honduras Team

Trip Experiences, Future Partnership

Mark your calendar for **Sunday, September 7, noon to 1:00 p.m.** All are invited to hear about our Honduras trip and partnership! The team of fourteen that went to Honduras in July of this year has decided to invite the congregation and friends to a time of sharing about our partnership there, sharing of their experiences, God-moments, and reflections. We'll also give a glimpse into the future of our partnership with Central UMC in Danli, Honduras. Feel free to bring a dish to share, although that is not required. Some on the team even plan to bring some Honduran dishes! We'll help ourselves to potluck lunch, and settle in for a wonderful time of learning, growing, and being inspired. Contact Pastor Lori or Lisa regarding the sharing time, or Jena regarding the food. Sign up on the Connection Card or Online to indicate your plan to attend, and whether you'd like to bring food.

Extending Grace!

This last In a society that is becoming more and more isolated (despite and maybe even because of all the technology), we have decided to do a trial run of greeting one another as part of worship again. Of course, you can do that however you like! You can go to a friend and give them a hug, and very importantly, you can seek out someone you don't know and greet them and introduce yourself. Let's create vital connection! Note: We are not looking to bring back all pre-pandemic practices per se, but would like to try this one practice. (Someone may undoubtedly ask if we can bring back the interactive joys and concerns in worship. One reason that we need to be careful with that is the livestream requires additional levels of confidentiality. Please feel free to email/call/text me or use our online prayer request tool to submit your prayer requests which we will lift up in worship with your permission.) Connection is so vital.. Let's continue to find ways to be connected!

Looking ahead...

New Members Class:

Mark your calendars if you've been thinking that Still Waters is the place you'd like to call your church home! We'll have a membership class **Sunday, September 21, from 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.**, and then **join the church the weekend of September 27/28**. This will be Souper Sunday, so grab some soup and lunch from the lobby and bring to our new members gathering! By the way... We'll let you in on a little secret... September 29 is Still Waters "Golden" birthday! We'll be 29 on September 29th! That means this New Members Class will have the distinction of joining on the week of Still Waters Golden Birthday. What a fun celebration! Contact Pastor Lori with questions or to sign up, or just register on our website!

Women's Retreat – September 26-28, 2025

Mt. Morris Retreat Center, Wautoma, Wi.

"Will The Real Person Please Stand Up"? Do you find yourself living a superficial life to protect yourself from rejection? At this retreat we will dive into this journey toward freedom. Based on the book authored by Gail Porter, we will explore the different ways we struggle with this and offer suggestions as to how to release ourselves to live authentically. Mt. Morris is a beautiful retreat center only a 1-1/2 hour drive from here. We will stay in a fully equipped lodge and enjoy the surrounding nature as well as delicious meals. Cost is \$200/person based on a shared room. Cost includes all meals as well as program costs. Space is limited, so please let us know if you want to attend as soon as possible. Sign up on the Connection Card or website, and contact Robin Olson Robinlee29@aol.com 262-366-5243 if you have any questions.

Animal Blessing 2025

Still Waters Youth Ministries is hosting an Animal Blessing **Saturday, Oct 11th, 2025 2:00-6:00 pm**, which includes a **special worship service inside from 5-6pm**.

- **Memorial Rainbow Bridge:** We'll have a Memorial Rainbow bridge station, where you can remember those special animals that have crossed over the rainbow bridge. You're invited to bring a picture and wings will be provided.
- **Animal Blessing Blankets:** Receive your animal blessing blanket, a gift for your precious furry friends.
- **Order for Saturday events:**
 - **2:00 Hiking trail and vendor booths open**
 - **2:30-4:45 Check In and Participate:** Animals may check in and visit the exhibits and participate in fun games and selfie stations with their Humans, Participate in Rainbow Bridge Memorial, bring picture of animal and receive their wings.
 - **5:00-6:00 - Special Indoor Worship Service** We will celebrate and witness the God

given bond between animals and God's people who are the stewards of God's Creatures. All animal companions and their human family members are invited to this special event. Bring pictures of animal friends that don't like to travel. During worship we'll have a blessing over all animals, including those who have crossed over the rainbow bridge.

- **6:00: Individual blessings** after worship.
- **6:00: Individual prayers offered for special prayer requests** for your animals

Sign up on the Connection Card or online to register your animal's attendance or to volunteer.

Special Sunday worship, 9:00 and 10:30: Worship will focus celebrate our animals, the beauty of God's creation, and we will have a special time of remembrance of our animal friends who have gone before us, a blessing for all animal friends, and animal blessing blankets will be distributed. You're welcome to bring pictures of your animals on Sunday.

Spring Forest Retreat! Possible opportunity in 2026!

Robin Olson, Nancy Oreshack, and Pastor Lori are looking into the possibility of offering a retreat at Spring Forest Retreat Center, North Carolina, in April of 2026! This is a retreat center whose mission is to help people heal from the hurts and struggles of life. On this retreat, we would get amazing teaching from Dr. Elaine Heath, former dean of Duke Divinity School, as she equips people to learn healing practices in our own lives and how to help others who are hurting. It is a retreat center on a beautiful farm with walking paths, and there is a rhythm of prayer, learning, work, rest, table. Pastor Lori was able to attend a retreat there this year, and we'd love to open the experience up to others! We would travel on a Monday, have a retreat Tuesday and Wednesday, and travel on Thursday. We are working on getting more specifics including exact dates in April, as well as price. Lodging is in a beautiful farmhouse on site that sleeps up to ten, some with shared rooms, some with single rooms. Lodging for the entire group is \$350 per night, so that cost would be shared among participants. We are working on narrowing down the dates, and exact cost with food and teaching included. Please talk to Robin, Nancy, or Pastor Lori if you have questions. Meanwhile, we hope to get details narrowed down soon!

Grace and peace and prayers!

Pastor Lori