



# Rising Above The Noise Encouragement not Criticism

January 10 & 11, 2026

## **1 Thessalonians 5:11**

Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

## **Ephesians 4:29**

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

## **1 Corinthians 15:33**

Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."

## **Message Notes**

1. **Receive** God's Encouragement
2. **Associate** With Encouragers
3. **Give** Encouragement

## **Food for Thought**

Think of a time when a critical remark impacted you in a negative way. How did you manage that?

What does it mean that God is our great encourager? How can you regularly be open to receive God's encouragement?

What does it mean for you when someone encourages you? How does that impact your spirit?

How can you be an encourager for others?

**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: Saturday 5:00 pm; Sunday 9:00 am & 10:30 am

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

## **Happy Birthday!**

Jan 12	John Haas, Dick Jones, Gary Ziegelbauer
Jan 13	Heidi Gugliotti, Joy Shill
Jan 14	Dennis Konieczka
Jan 15	Scott Lopacinski
Jan 16	Ryan Westenberger
Jan 17	Emily Frey

### **Ushers**

### **Greeters**

Saturday  
5pm

Kim Bartusek

Sunday  
9am

Kathy Dalton & Valerie Jacobson

Paul & Heidi Sanders

10:30am

Debbie Koloski & Debbie Drews

Linda Kleinhans & Kelly Passineau

Church Website



Online Giving



Still Waters Family,

I hope your new year is starting off well! We got off to a really great start last weekend as we started our new year worship series called "Rising Above the Noise." There is SO much noise, and we considered what it means to listen for God's 'still small voice' in the midst of the many voices in our world. LOTS of 365 day devotional materials went home with many of you, and we are working to restock so that if you weren't able to pick one up, we should have more this weekend. What an amazing opportunity to begin a daily "appointment with God" this year, as a way to help keep your spirit aligned with God's hope and love and purposes. this weekend we will continue the series and we'll focus on one type of voice that comes at all of us, the voice of criticism. Depending on where and from whom it comes, and the nature of what that voice says, it can range from a minor irritation to devastating news as we receive criticism. We invite you to come this weekend as we work to process through critics so that we might be encouraged instead. See you this weekend if not before!

A few notes about the upcoming opportunities, this week and beyond:

### **Dinner and a Movie Night**

This Friday, January 9, 2026. Chili Dinner at 6:30pm followed at 7:00pm by the movie "A Man Called Otto" starring Tom Hanks. When a lively young family moves in next door, grumpy widower Otto Anderson meets his match in a quick-witted woman named Marisol who is expecting, leading to an unlikely friendship that turns his world upside down. A free will offering will be taken to help cover costs of the meal. (Sponsored by Still Waters Women, but all are welcome!)

### **The Flock, Sunday January 11, noon**

#### ***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.

### **Feeding America**

Join us on **Wednesday, January 14** (always the 2nd Wednesday of the month) at **1:00 p.m.** for this very important ministry to distribute food to those who are food insecure. On-the-job training is always available; we often have new volunteers each month, so no worries if it's your first time. We'd love to welcome you!

### **Souper Sunday, January 18th, 11:45 a.m.**

Join us for Souper Sunday on January 18!... an awesome meal for our congregation, sponsored by our youth on the third Sunday of each month. Come warm up from the cold weather with the warmth of a great meal/intergenerational fellowship. Free will offering accepted, and proceeds will benefit our amazing youth ministry. Sign up on your Connection Card or website. Contact Lisa with questions.

### **Still Waters Women**

Calling all women... come on **Sunday, January 18**, and enjoy meeting with other women of all ages for planning and fellowship after the 2nd Sunday worship service, approximately 11:45 a.m. Sign up on the Connection Card or website.

### **VBS Pizza & Planning!**

Yes, you read that right! This year we are starting off our VBS planning early to have even more of an impact! If you'd like to get in on the excitement of planning for one of our Children's Ministry major events, we invite you to our Vacation Bible School (VBS) Planning Meeting on **Sunday, January 25th, 12:00pm**. We'll order pizza and get the creative ideas flowing! Please sign up on the Connection Card or on our website so we'll know of your interest. Contact Jena at [jenametzler@gmail.com](mailto:jenametzler@gmail.com) with any questions.

### **Family Promise. Week of January 26th - February 1st**

Our week to partner with Family Promise is coming! The week of January 26th - February 1st, we will be partnering with Family Promise by making dinners for the families experiencing homelessness that are in the program. As we get closer to the time we'll update the number of people (it changes as families transition out of and into the Family Promise program) and any dietary restrictions. If you'd like to make a meal that week, please sign up online or on your Connection Card. Contact Kelly ([kpassin@gmail.com](mailto:kpassin@gmail.com)) or Vicki Passineau ([vsp0013@gmail.com](mailto:vsp0013@gmail.com)) with questions.

### **July Honduras 2026 Mission Trip Applications Available!**

We are SO excited! The application to go on our July 11-18, 2026 Honduras trip is now online! We have been planning awhile, so if we could get those applications in by end of January that would be awesome. There are two tracks from which you can choose. You can go on the Education track, and be a part of supporting local Christian education in the community and local church through VBS and supporting Central UMC in their ministry, as well as education in the community. Medical track will be firmed up as Pastor Lori and others will be in Honduras next week (January) to meet with leaders and firm up details and exact extra cost for Medical Mission track of the mission trip. Go to <https://www.stillwaterschurch.com/honduras-mission-trip108735db> for more information or to apply.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Lori