

# Faith and Technology Streaming

July 20, 2025

#### 1 Corinthians 6:12

"I have the right to do anything," you say—but not everything is beneficial. "I have the right to do anything"—but I will not be mastered by anything.

#### Genesis 2:1-2

Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work.

#### Proverbs 27:17

As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

#### **Message Notes**

Consider:

- 1. Self Control
- 2. Sabbath
- 3. Accountability

# Food for Thought

We are in a time when we can consume technology in unlimited amounts.

What are some advantages of having so much information and streaming at our fingertips?

What are some disadvantages of having so much at our fingertips?

What are ways to put limits around our technology/streaming consumption?

In what ways do you feel God is calling you to use technology?

In what ways do you feel God is calling you to step back from use of technology?

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!

July 20	Maddie Pouzar	
July 22	Ed Goggins, Connie Leis	
July 24	Phil Stodola	
Julv 25	Karen Plamann	

# **Happy Anniversary!**

July 23	Brian & Sue Becker
	Mike & Dawn Peters
	Brian & Diane Radmer

Ryan & Katti Schneider

Sunday 9am	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Greeters</u>
	The Miles Family	The Flechner Family
10:30am	Ann Marksman & Debbie Drews	Paul Sanders & Heidi Ludorf Pat Swanstrom

Church Website



Online Giving



Greetings, Still Waters Family and Friends! Prayers you are well, on this beautiful day! I was just reflecting on how, when the pandemic hit, we began with these weekly emails. It has been an important source of communication for our congregation, and continues far beyond the pandemic! In fact, I marvel at the number of ways that technology serves our ministry, from website to Facebook to our live streaming, just to name a few! It also strikes me that technology can also be harmful in many ways... We can stay glued to our screens at the expense of real relationships, we can get stuck in cycles of comparison, and we can watch whatever we want whenever we want for as long as we want. It sounds like freedom, but it has it's significant downsides. This weekend we are starting a series on "Faith and Technology." I invite you to worship, and bring a friend, as we explore this topic together. It's good to be back from Honduras and I look forward to catching up with you!

Here are more details of other upcoming opportunities:

# Still Waters Potluck!

Sign up TODAY! A potluck brings us together and in the process supports Jena in her seminary education! Join us on **Sunday July 20th at 5pm** for a potluck style gathering this summer! Summer is a great time to meet new friends and laugh and connect with old friends! Come help us enjoy and celebrate the community and ministry right here at Still Waters Church. After the meal, you're welcome to join us for VBS Serve Night at 6:00 as we get to work preparing for our amazing Vacation Bible School. Our very own Jena is leading some extra ministry this summer as part of her "field education" for her seminary studies; one of the activities she gets to coordinate is a potluck. What a great opportunity to gather and enjoy each other and support Jena! <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4AA8A62DA6FDC70-57247418-still#/">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4AA8A62DA6FDC70-57247418-still#/</a>

# Vacation Bible School (VBS) Serve Night

Would you like to experience the privilege of being a part of the behind the scenes preparation for Vacation Bible School? On **Sunday, July 20, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.** we will meet in the church sanctuary with our youth to prepare the church for Vacation Bible School by decorating, prepare games, and do various projects getting ready for VBS. Please contact Jena Metzler for details or sign up online or on the Connection Card to indicate your plans to be there!

# Toy Drive to Benefit Children's Hospital

Each year for Vacation Bible School we do a drive to make an impact on the community around us. This year we are collecting toys for the Wisconsin Children's Hospital. Please see their <u>Amazon wishlist</u> - <a href="https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/2VCUAHTKLNJJ6">https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/2VCUAHTKLNJJ6</a> for their most needed items. The items on this list are the most preferred items to receive at this time. To keep their kids safe from infection, all donated items **must** be new (store-bought and in their original packaging) and cannot contain latex. All donations must be free from violence or otherwise inappropriate themes, unhealthy habits or religious themes. Bring toys in anytime in July as we gear up to celebrate children through VBS the week of July 28! See Jena for any questions.

# **Christmas in July!**

Happy "Christmas in July"! It's hard to believe but the Christmas season is just 6 months away! The Christmas Store Leadership Team has been busy planning for this year's event which will be on **Saturday, December 6th**. (Note- this is the first Saturday in December, instead of the second Saturday.) The mission of the Christmas Store is to provide families with a hand-up as they celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. These families come to church, enjoy breakfast together, take a family photo and then, while the children are playing and involved in different activities, the parents and a personal shopper start picking out gifts. All prices are greatly reduced so that the families can afford them. Last year, 32 families participated in our Christmas Store... That was nearly 90 children who received gifts that their parents were able to provide for them, with our help. This year we plan to expand to reach up to 40 families! This is so exciting!

This is a major outreach that our church does each year. To be successful, it takes a lot of people working together. There is a place for you to help too if you're interested! There are volunteer opportunities for before, during and after the event. In addition, we need financial support. Any amount you can donate will go directly to funding this mission project. And, perhaps most importantly, we need prayer support. Please make checks payable to Still Waters Church and put "Christmas Store" in the memo. Also, the Christmas Store is looking for donations of gently used children's books, new coloring books/crayons, and new activity books (like for math or spelling, word finds, etc). These items will go on the Free Table at the Christmas Store. We also need a variety of gift bags to be used in the wrapping rooms. There will be a bin for donated items in the lobby starting July 13th. Thank you in advance for supporting this important event!

"Christmas in July" is our time to begin significant preparations for this Still Waters signature ministry. To sign up to be a part of this great mission project, beginning this weekend, see the bulletin insert, visit the Christmas in July table between services or sign up online beginning July 13th. All are welcome to help share God's love as we Find the Lost, Release the Captive, and Develop Disciples of Jesus.

# **Soul Care- Find Life-Giving Rhythms**

Join us **Mondays at 7:00 p.m**. for an hour, **beginning June 16** for 7 weeks. (I know it's summercome when you are in town!) The world has a way of depleting us! If you're like me, the demands and disappointments of life can leave me feeling exhausted. This study will explore the interconnected nature of restoration of our body, mind, and spirit, that so often feels just out of reach. We will discover life-giving rhythms that involve our physical, mental, spiritual, emotional, our inner worlds, our boundaries and so much more. Join us for a study that seeks to holistically care for ourselves... our souls. When we care for our souls, everyone in our world is impacted! Facilitated by Pastor Lori. The book is \$10. Sign up on the Connection Card or on our website.

#### **Summer Walk 'n Connect**

Join us for our new 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.

# **The Sanctuary Course**

Join us for the **Wednesday Night** Small group this summer at **7:00 p.m.** and meeting for 8 weeks as we work through *The Sanctuary Course* and engage in conversations on the topic of mental health. Designed to raise awareness and start conversations in local churches regarding mental health, *The Sanctuary Course was* created by Sanctuary Mental Health Ministries and is for anyone who wants to explore the topic of faith and mental health. It requires no previous training or expertise—just a willingness to engage in dialogue with others. This course and films address difficult and sensitive topics, and may not be appropriate for a young audience. It is not recommended for people ages 17 and younger. Facilitated by Jena. Sign up on your Connection Card or on our website.

# **VBS- Save the Date!!!**

It's time to start thinking about Vacation Bible School! Our theme this year is Live it Out and we'll be talking about learning to love like Jesus! Dates are **Monday July 28 through Thursday July 31** from 6pm-8pm each night. Each day we'll go through centers of music, games, crafts, and Bible adventures. Please contact Jena Metzler with any questions. Register for VBS on our Connection Card or website.

# 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.

# 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.

#### **Let's Take Time to Greet!**

Some of you remember a time (pre-pandemic) when we would stand and greet one another at the open of the worship service. 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 prepandemic practices per-se, but would like to try this one practice for now. (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.) 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.

Grace and peace and prayers!

Pastor Lori