



Faith and Technology Social Media

July 27, 2025

Hebrews 12:1-2a

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

1 Thessalonians 5:18

Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Ephesians 2:10

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Message Notes

Biblical Principles:

1. Stay focused
2. Stay grateful
3. Stay real
4. Stay centered

Food for Thought

How often do you use social media (e.g. Facebook, instagram, etc)?

What are the benefits you receive? Are there other benefits you can think of in terms of using social media?

What are ways your use of social media negatively impacts you?

What are the effects of "Comparison Culture" (we compare ourselves to others on social media) on you? What do you think the effects are for our youngest generation?

Using the 4 point above, what are some concrete ways you stay emotionally and spiritually healthy in the culture in which we now live?

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 28	Roger Hamm, Vicki Passineau
July 29	Lena Hamers
July 24	Phil Stodola
July 31	Izzy Sutton
Aug 1	Jan King, Mary Jo Palmstein, Katie Passineau

Happy Anniversary!

July 26	Jim & Kara Phillips
July 27	Tom & Tammy Trueman
Aug 1	Chad & Kristin Bonlender

Ushers

Sunday
9am

Jan Giza

10:30am

Debbie Drews & Linda Kleinhans

Greeters

Marc & Kim Bartusek

Ron & Ann Naab

Church Website



Online Giving



Greetings, Still Waters Family and Friends! This email coming to you is another reminder of how technology is integrated into our lives! We hardly think twice about receiving emails, texts, and clicking links to access more information. We are continuing our Faith and Technology series this weekend, and Sunday we will talk about Social Media. Did you know that over 5 billion people use social media apps? That's over 60% of the *world* population! As is the case with technology in general, social media has both its great benefits, but also some serious detrimental effects, including the now 'comparison' culture which leads so many to, ironically, feel anxious, sad, and withdrawn. We're going to discuss biblical ways to stay emotionally and spiritually healthy in this social media world in which we live. We welcome you to worship this weekend! Also, VBS starts Monday! Don't forget to sign up your kids, grandkids, and invite a friend!

Here are more details of other upcoming opportunities:

VBS is Next Week!!!

It's time to sign up for Vacation Bible School if you haven't already! It's starting on Monday! Our theme this year is Live it Out and we'll be talking about learning to love like Jesus! VBS runs **Monday July 28 through Thursday July 31** from 6pm-8pm each night. Each day Monday through Wednesday we'll go through centers of music, games, crafts, and Bible adventures. Thursday is our special "Family Day." Parents will come with their kids, and there will be singing, award sharing, celebrating the week, and lots of fun as we head outside for an evening with a cookout, bouncy house, and other awesome games. Please contact Jena Metzler with any questions. Register for VBS on our Connection Card or website.

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 [Amazon wishlist](https://www.amazon.com/registries/gf/guest-view/2VCUAHTKLNJJ6) 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.
<https://www.amazon.com/registries/gf/guest-view/2VCUAHTKLNJJ6>

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, skipping VBS week. 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 **Wednesday Nights** this summer at **7:00 p.m.** 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.

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 at jxhaas@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 19th.)

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!

Extending Grace!

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 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.

Grace and peace and prayers!

Pastor Lori