



The Holy Spirit

The Advocate, Comforter, and Counselor:
The Holy Spirit in John

May 24, 2026

John 3:5-8 (CEB)

Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

John 14:15-17, 25-26 (NRSV)

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, [Comforter/Counselor] to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate [Comforter/Counselor] the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you.

Message Notes

The Holy Spirit:

1. Gives New Life
2. Is An Advocate
3. Is a Comforter/Counselor

Food for Thought

Describe a time in your life that God (Holy Spirit) seemed to be bringing new life from some really hard times. (Maybe that's even right now!) Try to describe how that unfolded and what happened internally in your heart.

What would it mean that God's Spirit is your Advocate? That when you feel no one else is on your side, ready to fight for you, you realize God is on your side, always 'for you.'

How does God's Spirit reveal truth to you? What is the most recent way that God guided you to a new truth, a new understanding, a new way of seeing things, a new hope?

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!

May 24 Dominic Hanson, Addie Paulson, Brandon Paulson
May 25 Debbie Koloski
May 27 Ryan Schmidt
May 28 Dave Spears
May 29 Abby Koller, Jack Koller, Lillian Lemminger, Brenda Panzer,
Heidi Sanders, Charlie Steinman

Happy Anniversary!

May 28 Karl & Stacy Scherzer
May 29 Kristo & Sarah Kleimeyer

Ushers

Greeters

Sunday

9am Debbie Drews & Kathy Dalton

Dennis Konieczka & Barb Thorstenson

10:30am Steve & Barb Smith

Paul & Heidi Sanders

Church Website



Online Giving



Good morning, Still Waters family! I hope your week is going well. As we get ready for a long weekend, we have some special notes to let you know about this weekend... First, you will hear some awesome Holy Spirit stories from a couple members of our church- Mari Masters and Mary Helsell. Second, we will take time this Memorial Day weekend to honor those who have given their all for freedoms that we enjoy every day in our country. Finally, join us for Family Fun Day! We'll cook out, enjoy a campfire and tons of games. This weekend, we will look at some very important roles that the Holy Spirit takes on in our lives: advocate, comforter, and counselor. Truly, I am totally blown away at how God's Spirit is on the move, in my own imperfect spirit, in the life of Still Waters Church, and in the midst of our broken world. I invite you to come for a word of hope and possibility thinking!

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

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 tonight, May 21 5:00 p.m.** Come as you are and when you can. See Ron or Ann Naab with questions.

Summer Worship Schedule, Begins This Weekend

Our summer worship schedule will go from May 23 through September 6 (Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend). During summer we will have worship on Sundays, 9:00 and 10:30 (no Saturday night worship during the summer, beginning May 24.)

Family Fun Day, Sunday, May 24

This Sunday, May 24th 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 Memorial Day fun day. Contact Lisa with questions at swym2019@gmail.com. Sign up on the Connection Card or online. Bringing food is not required, but if you'd like to bring a side dish, that would be great. All are welcome, and feel free to just show up!

Monday Study: "The Holy Spirit" *God's Presence and Power at Work in Us*

Join us **Mondays at 7:00 p.m for 5 weeks**, (Note: **skipping Memorial Day**) as we uncover the mystery of how God moves in and around and among us! Corresponding with our worship series, and based on the newly released book by Adam Hamilton, we will look at the movement of the Holy Spirit through both the Old Testament and New Testament and what that means for how God is at work today, in our lives and in our world. Pastor Lori facilitating, book is \$15.

Dynamite Prayer Books Available

Throughout our Holy Spirit series, I will be referencing several additional resources on God's Holy Spirit. One that I would recommend as a companion to anyone is the book, "Dynamite Prayer," by Rosario Picardo and Sue Nilson Kibbey. (Some of you may remember this from a few years ago.) I will have some copies available in the lobby, which are available to you for \$10 (or just take one if that works better.) I use this resource each day in my time with God as the last thing I read before I start my day. It is a 28-day "experiment" in experiencing God's Holy Spirit. One thing I particularly love is the "Prayer Hold" each day, a one-sentence Holy Spirit prayer for that day. I usually take that

one-sentence prayer and enter it into an alarm on my phone to bring me at a time helpful in that day to as a reminder of God's presence and power all around me and us. For example, the prayer-hold prayer the day I happen to be typing this is: "God, reform my view of any personal discouragement or failing so that I may instead see it as a window through which your resurrection power and strength can shine through. Amen." Help yourself to one of these books! A great companion for our Holy Spirit series.

Holy Yoga Tuesdays, 8:45 a.m. THROUGH MAY

Holy Yoga will meet through the month of May, and then take a break for the summer! (Last Holy Yoga will be May 26, until we start up again in the fall.) Holy Yoga meets on Tuesdays, 8:45 am on Tuesdays. Donation of \$10 each session suggested. No need to sign up- just come! Holy Yoga is an intentional practice of connecting with God once per week on Tuesday mornings for an hour! Contact Nancy Maier or Robin Olson with questions.

Tuesday Morning Study- The Road Less Traveled

On Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m., are studying the 'classic' book, "The Road Less Traveled" by M. Scott Peck, M.D. The study will go for 15 weeks, and **conclude on June 16**. Together we will explore the nature of loving relationships and discover new serenity and fullness of life. We'll look at how to distinguish between dependency and love, how to become more sensitive parent, and ultimately how to become one's own true self. Book is \$12. Sign up on the Connection Card or online.

Wednesday Evening Book Study: "Relaxed" by Megan Marshmann

If you had to describe Jesus in one word, what word would you use? The author, Megan Marshman, was inspired by one man's answer who said "relaxed". **Join us for a 6 week study starting on Wednesday May 13th** as we learn more about walking with Jesus, the one who isn't worried about a thing. Jena Metzler facilitating, book is \$11.

Hampton Elementary School, Donate Toward New Books for Students

We have a goal to purchase one new book for each student at Hampton Elementary School. There are children who have never had a book of their very own. Checks can be made out to Still Waters with "Hampton School Books" in the memo.

Hampton Elementary School Partnership Events

Let's go, Change Makers! The Holy Spirit is moving! Our Tuesday book group is leading the way in initiating a partnership with Hampton Elementary School. Hampton School is a high-need elementary school in the Milwaukee Public Schools system relatively close to us. As this partnership is unfolding, there are some awesome volunteer opportunities to close out this school year. Please sign up on your Connection Card or online to participate in any of the meetings/events below.

- **Book Give Away, Thursday, May 28, 9:30 a.m.:** Come and give books away to the children! What an amazing gift! If you'd like to come and carpool, we'll meet at the church at 8:50 a.m. and carpool from there. We'll also give away girl scout cookies that were donated- 1 box for every child!
- **Field Day, Thursday, June 11!** Come on out on June 11 for Field Day! You can either **distribute food to children**, or you can **participate in the field day games**. Choose from: Lightning, 500, Ultimate Four Square, Temporary Tattoos/Hand Painting, Assorted Tossing Games, Bubble Galore (Bubble machine needed), Jump Rope Contest, Frisbee Golf, Dressing Relays, Beach Ball Volleyball, Team Tic Tac Toe, Team Connect Four, Potato Sack Races. **We'll meet at church at 11:15 a.m.** and carpool down, and expect to be **back by before 2:00 p.m.**

Brat Fry Youth Ministry Fundraiser

Stop by Piggly Wiggly, Slinger location, on **Saturday, May 30 10:00 a.m - 2:00 p.m.** for our youth ministry fundraiser! Proceeds from sales this day will benefit Still Waters Youth Ministry!

Walk 'n Connect

Walk 'n Connect is BACK! We are excited to start up again our Walk 'n Connect ministry! Join us on **Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. beginning June 4th** at church. (Note, we have changed this from Tuesdays to Thursdays!) Weather permitting, we will begin with a walk around our property outside, otherwise we'll walk inside. Then, after our walk, We will be guided through time of connecting with each other and God 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.

Feeding America

Join us on **Wednesday, June 10** (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!

Men's Breakfast, Wednesday, June 17, 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, June 16.)

Quest Camp

Quest camp is a remarkable, ridiculously fun, re-imagined way for youth groups and youth leaders to experience God, encounter Christ, grow closer as a group, and refocus!. Quest camp is for incoming 6th graders through seniors in High School, and this year will be June 21st - 26th. Quest camp includes Bible study and worship, an expansive high ropes course, climbing tower and zipline, amazing lakefront activities, and refreshing food and lodging. One of the greatest things about Quest is that our youth group and leaders attend together, creating a stronger fellowship bond within our youth group and experiences that create lifelong memories that deepen our faith journey. The cost per camper is \$350.00. Deposit of \$50 due by end of February, with \$100 due monthly after that. See Lisa for details, and sign up online or via the Connection Card.

Looking ahead...

Honduras Intergenerational Mission Trip July 11-18, 2026

We continue to be so excited for our mission trip to Honduras, July 11–18, 2026! You are invited to come to Honduras, OR you can participate in the mission from home! Our mission this year is two-fold. If you come to Honduras, you will choose to be in either an **Education or Medical Focus Group**. No specific training or experience needed for either group. We also need people to be a part of the back home support group. Examples of how you can help from Wisconsin include being part of the VBS planning or sponsoring medical costs. As a **full team in country**, we'll spend time together worshipping, eating, laughing and experiencing Christ's amazing presence on the mission field. We can't wait to serve together!

For more specifics continue reading:

Education Focus Group (Contact: Lisa or Lori):

We'll support Danli UMC in leading VBS at the School in the Carbonera Community—one of the highest-need schools. We'll also paint murals at our partner church; Central UMC in Danlí. We'll tour another public school and learn about a scholarship program that helps kids attend school. Even though public education is “free,” the ability for families to afford uniforms and supplies can prohibit kids from actually attending. **You can help from Wisconsin by coming to a VBS Planning session!** More dates to come... Sign up on the website or Connection Card.

Medical Focus Group (Contact: Debi Haas):

Partnering with Honduran doctors, and a pharmacist we'll co-run a clinic providing preventive and urgent care. Thanks to those of you who have contributed financially!!! If you'd still like to contribute financially, money toward supplies would be wonderful!

We welcome your involvement—whether going to Honduras or supporting from home! Many hands make for powerful impact!

Vacation Bible School

It's time to start thinking about Vacation Bible School! Our theme this year is Kingdom Quest and we'll be discovering what it means to live in the kingdom of God today! Dates are **Monday July 27 through Thursday July 30** from 6pm-8pm each night. Each day we'll go through centers of music, games, crafts, and Bible adventures. The final day (July 30th) will be Family Night where family and friends are invited for a short program and stay for a cookout and a bouncy house in the back area of the church! Please contact Jena Metzler with any questions up to the month of July. Come July, Lisa Paulson will be stepping in as coordinator and will be able to answer any questions since Baby Metzler will be making her arrival around that time! Register for VBS on our Connection Card or website.

Youth Missional Retreat

Our missional retreat, scheduled for August 3rd through 8th, is for high school youth, including those entering high school this fall. It takes place at Spring Forest in North Carolina, known for its Celtic rhythms, intertwining nature, contemplative practices, and ancient faith traditions. More than just a trip, it's a time to serve, reflect, and grow in faith. Rooted in United Methodist tradition, we blend service with worship, prayer, and reflection. The cost, approximately \$1,000, covers flights, transportation, retreat participation, and meals during the retreat—though travel meals may be extra. Spots are limited, so a \$100 deposit is required by June 7th to secure a place. To indicate interest, sign up on the Connection Card or online. If you have questions, contact Lisa at swym2019@gmail.com

Praying for peace, grace, and hope for each of you and for our world,

Pastor Lori