

JOY to the World this Week

JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH / 717 FM 359, RICHMOND, TX 77406 / (281) 762-3310

Joy (ELCA) is a participating congregation with Lutheran CORE (Coalition for Reform)

PoWeR SuRGe TAKE HOME TOOLS for October 31, 2010

CONGREGATIONAL WEBSITE — www.joyrichmond.org

OUR VALUES:

Faithful, Family, Friendly, Fun

OUR VISION:

Joy to the World!

OUR MISSION:

Called by God, we reach out joyfully to share Jesus Christ with all people by building healthy relationships with God and one another.

COFFEE & REFRESHMENTS — Refreshments are available in the narthex between worship services.

COMPLETE WORSHIP FOLDERS — are available from the ushers for those who desire. Be sure and ask!

CRY ROOM — A nursery/cry room is available and staffed during worship. The nursery is available for all children up to and including age 4. It is located just down the hallway on the left side.

GENERAL INFORMATION — A variety of information sources are located in the narthex, particularly on the bulletin boards and the tables.

PRAYER CHAIN — Call Lou Gross or June Tesch if you have a prayer request.

QUESTIONS, SUGGESTIONS & CONCERNS — Contact council chairperson— Becky Ohm in the evenings, or Pastor Christ anytime (832-549-4985).

RESTROOMS — Both men's and women's restrooms are located just down the hall on the right hand side.

RECYCLE — Please recycle your bulletins, etc., in the bin provided in the foyer.

VISIT DESIRED — If you would like a visit from the Pastor or a lay disciple for any reason, call the church office during regular office hours, or contact the Pastor directly at (832-549-4985).

Office Hours

Monday — Friday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Joy Worship Schedule

CELEBRATION WORSHIP — Sunday, 8:00a

A traditional worship experience led by the Joy Choir, organ, Joyful Tooters, lay liturgists, and special music.

SPIRIT TOUCHING SPIRIT — Sunday, 10:30a

A contemporary worship experience led by the Praise Band @ Joy and lay liturgists, using a variety of contemporary Christian music and liturgies.

Joy Leadership

MINISTERS

Every Person in the Body of Christ is a Disciple! You are Jesus' front-line disciples who spread Joy in daily life. We firmly believe that God is empowering you every day as you seek to fulfill your divine calling as a disciple who makes disciples!

EXECUTIVE TEAM

Becky Ohm — Council Chairperson; **John Garrou** — Council Vice-Chairperson; **Larry Mikeska** — Secretary; **Beth Horstman** — Treasurer; **Dave Willis** — Financial Secretary

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Laura Cabato — Social Ministry; **Rick Curry** — Property; **Kathy Gann** — JoyLife; **John Garrou** — Evangelism; **Wayne Leith** — Stewardship; **Larry Mikeska** — Communication; **Tracy Posey** — Youth & Family Ministry (FDIC)

MINISTRY LEADERS

June Tesch — Joyful Women; **Paula Curry** — Jr. High; **Shena Timberlake** — Sr. High; **Brett Carleton** — Growing in Joy (GIJ); **Vicki Schoppe** — Staffing Team

STAFF

Tim Christ — Pastor; **Terri Clark** — Administrative Assistant; **Darin Mielke** — Joy Choir Director; **Lou Gross** — Joyful Tooters; **Carol Boenig & Audrey Stoneburner** — Organists; **Tammy Canterbury, Rick Curry, Ron Light, Milton & Jeanette Richards, Sandy Wohlert** — Praise Band

This week of Joy to the World —

- Today** — **Reformation Sunday**
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a
— Christian Ed: 9:15a
— Confirmation: 10:30a
— Lutheran Confessions Class: 6p
- Monday** — FDIC & Social Ministry Meeting: 6:30p
— Executive Team Meeting: 7:30p
- Tuesday** — JW Bible Study: 10a & 7p
- Wednesday** — Confirmation: 6p
— Joy Choir: 7:30p
- Thursday** — Joyful Tooters: 7p
— Men's Bible Study: 7p
— Praise Band: 7:30p
- Saturday** — **Set your clocks back tonight!**
- Next Sunday** — **All Saints' Sunday**
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a
— Christian Ed: 9:15a
— Confirmation: 10:30a
— Lutheran Confessions Class: 6p

—Live, Love & Serve with Joy!

Ministry Opportunities

REFORMATION SUNDAY — The rite of Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) is celebrated today at late service. Emma Gaas; Mitchell Hong; and Rhianna Schwartz are affirming their Baptismal covenant. Let us celebrate!

FDIC & SOCIAL MINISTRY MEETING — Monday, Nov. 1st at 6:30 p.m. There will be no Social Ministry meeting on Thurs. Nov. 11th.

FALL BACK! — Daylight savings time ends on Nov. 7th. Be sure to set your clocks back Saturday night! (Or start worship without us Sunday morning!)

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY — On All Saints' Sunday we remember those who have been called from the Church Militant to the Church Triumphant during the past year. Signup sheet is in the Narthex. All Saints' Sunday is Nov. 7th. This year we are asking you to bring a photo of your loved one to share.

INCREDIBLE JOURNEY — for those who are interested in becoming a disciple of Joy will be schedule soon. Watch for more information or contact John Garrou.

GROWING MINISTRY GRANT FUND — forms and instructions are available on the Council bulletin board and on the bulletin board Narthex.

BEARS, BLANKETS & BOOKS — Joy will once again participate in this program collecting items for the Fort Bend County Health Center. Bring in new or gently used stuffed animals, blankets & books throughout the month of Nov. A basket is located in the Narthex to place the items.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY — Men's Bible Study meets on Thursdays at 7 p.m. The discussion is on the Book of Judges. Warning! Adult Situations and Content. All men are welcome.

JOYFUL WOMEN COOKBOOK — Submit your family's favorite recipes so we may compile another cookbook; this will be Vol. 3! An envelope to collect recipes is on the bulletin board in the Narthex

EMAIL ADDRESSES — Please send your email information to the church office to keep up on the latest news! If you would like to be taken off the email notifications, let us know by calling the church office or by email at office@joyrichmond.org.

GREETING CARDS ARE NEEDED — for the nursing homes. Any type of cards, new or used are needed for Birthdays, Christmas, Get Well, etc. There will be a box in the Narthex.

DO YOU HAVE AN OLD HAT? — Joyce Hopkins is looking for old hats to be donated for a project at the nursing homes. Please place the hats in the magazine basket for her to pick up.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SNACKS — are a continual need! Please bring individual juice boxes, individual packages of teddy grahams; cheese nips, etc. (think low sugar!) Please place them in the green tub in the kitchen. Thank you for your continued support of our Sunday School Program.

SHADE TREE MINISTRY — Appreciates your generous donations of Rice and Beans. Donations are always needed and can be placed in the bin in the Narthex for distribution. For info contact David or Martha Willis. Other items needed include men's work gloves and shoes.

BIRTHDAYS — 10/31 Ariel Landinger; 11/1 June Tesch; 11/4 Chance Geary; 11/5 David Denton & Brenda Goates

People of Prayer

Prayer is one of the marks of Discipleship. We invite everyone to grow in your prayer life. Include these persons, needs, concerns and thanksgivings in your prayers this week.

Due the extensive nature of our prayer list, we are changing our routine policy. A name will be placed on the Sunday list once and in our Newsletter list as long as requested. If you wish to have someone included several Sundays, please continue to fill out a prayer request card during worship.

Our Synod Staff: Bishop Michael Rinehart, Assistants to the Bishop: Peggy Hahn, AiM; Pr. Don Carlson; Pr. Kerry Nelson

Our Congregational Leaders: especially our Pastor, staff, and Church Council leaders.

Our Sister Congregation: Iglesia Luterana de Cristo Rey in Reynosa, Mexico; Bp. Bazellel Hernandez

Serving Jesus Today

<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Altar Flowers	In celebration of Mike & Kathy Gann's 40 th Anniv.
Altar Guild	C. Bolner/M. Mikeska/M. Peveto/P. Shipp
Ushers	Al & Candace Rieder Bill & Hazel Peska
Acolyte	Courtney Kelley Sarah Hong
Liturgist	Dan Strode Corinne Light
Lector	Alan Lowe Vickie Schoppe
Cantor	Dan Strode
Child Sermon	June Tesch Doris Goates
Communion	Betty Christ, Betty McDow, Joyce Hopkins
Audio	B. Horstman J. Goates
Video	B. Horstman J. Goates
Counters	A. Schoppe & F. Kunzler

Serving Jesus Next Sunday

<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Altar Flowers	In celebration of Mike & June Meyer's 35 th Anniv.
Altar Guild	D. Bray/K & W Faucett/B. Marvin/B. McDow
Ushers	Cliff & Shelly Halvorsen Parke & Gracie Wyant
Acolyte	Hayden Posey Brianna Wyant
Liturgist	Fred Kunzler Chuck Canterbury
Lector	Jill Kunzler John Garrou
Cantor	Fred Kunzler
Child Sermon	Tracy Posey Kathy Strode
Communion	Paula Curry/Shirley Morris/Kathy Strode
Audio	B. Horstman K. Loewe
Video	B. Horstman M. Mikeska
Counters	Melody Mielke/Bob Jah

CONGREGATIONAL WEBSITE — www.joyrichmond.org

E-MAIL — Pastor Tim: pastor@joyrichmond.org Terri Clark: office@joyrichmond.org

Our Daily Joy!

Thy Kingdom Come . . . Kingdom Reforming – Week of October 31, 2010

Monday, November 1

A New Thing - Isaiah 43:15-19; Matthew 9:17

God is doing a new thing; a new heaven and a new earth. The prophet says we won't even be able to remember what life was like before when this new thing is complete. Notice the key words: new, glad, rejoice, joy and delight. This is what God is up to, bringing the Kingdom among us. The Creator is still creating. What new thing is God creating in your life today? Ask God to open your eyes and ears more fully so you can see and hear what God is up to today.

Tuesday, November 2

Entrenched? - Isaiah 43:15-19 again; Matthew 23:13-15

Jesus often railed against religious entrenchment. In the Matthew reading, he takes on the scribes and Pharisees for their misplaced piety. The prophet Isaiah says a similar thing to his audience. The people have become so entrenched in their faith tradition that they don't believe they have anything more to learn about what is possible with God and God's activity in the world. Faith becomes static, dogmatic, and unable to imagine that God could do anything new. This is a faith that is seized up, catatonic, totally compromised by the current culture. Are there parts of your life that are religiously entrenched? Where are you seized up or catatonic? Ask God to break you free from those places where your life is compromised.

Wednesday, November 3

Exile? - Isaiah 43:15-19 again; 1 Peter 2:11-12

Isaiah uses imagery of the Israelites fleeing from Egypt and the army of Egyptians overwhelmed in the Red Sea to speak to people exiled in Babylon. Prophets often used historical images to remind people of God's faithfulness while calling them to return to faith. Israel's faith is deeply rooted in the far-reaching past acts of God. But in this text, the prophetic formula changes. The prophet first reminds the people of God's power and God's favor. But then he challenges them to step into a future where God will do a new thing. God is powerful and has done great things, but turn your face into a new future. 1 Peter reminds us that there are exiles today, as well; people of faith dispersed throughout the world. Are you exiled from your real home? Have circumstances led you to believe that God cannot possibly do a new thing in your life? Ask God to remind you of what God has done in your past, and give you a new hope for the future.

Thursday, November 4

Enough? - Romans 3:19-28; Psalm 1:1-2

This section of Romans is part of Paul's final argument about judgment. Paul concludes that the entire world is guilty before God. The law gives us knowledge of sin, but no amount of dutiful law-following will save us from it. So while the law is useful, and a gift to the Jews (and the whole world), it cannot free us from the power of sin. Paul defines sin as more than individual transgressions against God; it's deeply connected to the human condition. The question changes from "Have we done enough?" (a question that has no answer), to "Do I have faith, and do I believe?" This argument from Paul to the Romans (which began in Galatians) is so new and radical that we are still wrestling with it today. It's one thing to delight in God's law and quite another to believe that you can somehow do enough to fulfill the law. Do you have faith? Do you believe? Ask God for the gift of faith, and then trust God to provide it.

Friday, November 5

Religiosity? - Luke 5:33-39; Jeremiah 31:33

One of the biggest arguments Jesus has with the Pharisees is that they are so consumed with their own piety and religiosity that they have forgotten the moral demands of that very religion. It is clear to the Pharisees and the followers of John the Baptist that the Jesus movement is not religious enough, so Jesus, the leader, is questioned. Jesus responds by refusing to debate the merits of their practices. He shows no interest in arguing the finer points and details of religious life, something the Pharisees love to do. God's law is written on our hearts, yet we simply cannot behave according to the law. Is that how we end up with religiosity? Is there a part of you that's simply putting up with religiosity? Ask God to take away anything that's getting the way of you become a new creation.

Saturday, November 6

Renewal? - Luke 5:33-39 again; Isaiah 28:31

Jesus says that the coming Kingdom of God should be celebrated. This renewal is new: reaching out across boundaries, living into the Kingdom in the present. Jesus' second point, made more dramatic through the parables of the cloth and the wineskins, is that this new thing that Jesus is doing cannot and will not fit into any previous religious paradigm. It is so new that it is actually dangerous to the Pharisees. Jesus' message that the Kingdom of God is near is incompatible with the existing religious systems, and, in many ways, it's also incompatible with many Christian systems today. The Isaiah text describes this renewal in physical ways, with new strength and recovery from weariness. Where do you need renewal today? Ask God to make it possible for you to run and not be weary.

Sunday, November 7

Open? - Luke 5:33-39 again; Isaiah 65:17-18

There are times when our own imagination about God's ability to do new things succumbs to a static religious dogma. What new thing is God calling us to be about? What religious systems have we created that Jesus would declare to unstable for his new wine? Can God do something new within us? How can we remain open to the movement of God and still be faithful? Many people hear the word "open" and they immediately assume that the word of God is being compromised. Is God's future open or determined? In Isaiah, we sense the prophet's excitement about the new thing that God will do. Where in your life has static religious dogma taken hold? Ask God to make you open to what God is able to do through you.