

JOY to the World this Week

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

Joy is a member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

PoWeR SuRGe TAKE HOME TOOLS for November 22, 2009

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.

Office Hours

Monday — Friday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Joy Worship Schedule

CELEBRATION WORSHIP — Sunday, 8:00a

A traditional worship experience using *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, the *Lutheran Book of Worship* and *With One Voice*, led by the Joy Choir, organ, lay liturgists, and special music.

SPIRIT TOUCHING SPIRIT — Sunday, 10:30a

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

Information You Can Use

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

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 foyer, particularly on the bulletin boards and the tables.

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

QUESTIONS, SUGGESTIONS & CONCERNS — Contact council chairperson, Rick Godwin 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 member, call the church office during regular office hours, or contact the Pastor directly at (832) 549-4985.

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

Rick Godwin — Council Chairperson; **Becky Ohm** — Council Vice-Chairperson; **Vacant** — Secretary; **Beth Horstman** — Treasurer; **Dave Willis** — Financial Secretary

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Bill Barr — Property; **Vacant** — JoyLife; **Doris Goates** — Worship & Music; **Tracy Posey** — Youth & Family Ministry; **Laura Cabato** — Social Ministry; **Becky Ohm** — Stewardship; **Larry Mikeska** — Communication; **John Garrou** — Evangelism

MINISTRY LEADERS

June Tesch — Joyful Women; **Tracy Posey** — Coordinator FDIC; **Paula Curry** — Jr. High; **Shena Timberlake** — Sr. High; **Beth Horstman** — NCD Health Team; **Brett Carleton** — Growing in Joy; **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** — Worship Team

This week of Joy to the World —

Today — **CHRIST THE KING**
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a
— Christian Education: 9:15a
— Joy 101-11: 6p

Monday — Joyful Tooters: 7p

Tuesday — Joy Choir @FMC: 7:30p

Wednesday — Pericope Study: 9:30a

Thursday — THANKSGIVING DAY

Next Sunday — **ADVENT 1**
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a
— Christian Education: 9:15a
— Joy 101-12: 6p

—Live, Love & Serve with Joy!

Ministry Opportunities

TIME & TALENTS — we would like to update your serving preferences to plan our schedule for next year. If you have never had the opportunity to serve, this is your chance to let us know of your interest. Complete the Time & Talent sheet available on our website at www.joyrichmond.org/ministries.htm. Completed forms can be turned into the office or placed in Becky Ohm's box.

KRAUSE CHRISTMAS TREE — For the holiday season, we have partnered with Krause Children's Center to support this year's Christmas Angel Tree project. Children's names and prayers will be displayed on the lollipop prayer tree in the Narthex. Please take a lollipop and pray for that child during Advent and beyond. We will also be collecting gift cards to Target and Wal-Mart. There will be a basket at the base of the tree to place cards by Dec. 13th so they can be delivered for Christmas.

BEARS, BLANKETS & BOOKS — Social Ministry will be collecting new or gently used Bears, Blankets and Books for the annual "A Cozy Little Christmas" gift drive sponsored by Fort Bend Family Health Center. Please place items in the bin in the Narthex during the month of November.

FAMILY ADVENT EVENT — Families will meet in the Sanctuary on Nov. 29th for a special Advent opening. Families and disciples are then invited to go to SS classrooms for a special Chrismon Craft: An ornament designed by Martha Willis for our Christmass Tree. Sign up in the classroom during the next 3 weeks to help us have the correct number of kits. Families will also receive the Advent Home Devotional to take home along with their Chrismon. All disciples of Joy are invited to join us for this event! Kits can be purchased if you are not able to be there.

FAMILY ADVENT DEVOTIONAL — Families will receive their Advent Home Devotional to take home and use during Advent on Sunday, Nov. 29th. Copies will also be available in the Narthex.

POINSETTIAS — We have once again ordered poinsettias from the Brookwood Community for our altar at Christmass Worship. Cost is \$9. A signup sheet is located in the Narthex. Deadline is Dec. 19th

SAVE THE DATE! — For the Annual Congregational Meeting, Part 1 on Sunday, Dec. 6th at noon. During this meeting we will elect four disciples to serve open council seats as well as determine Nominating Committee and Audit Teams for 2010. We will also act on the Ministry Spending Guide for 2010. Your prayers and participation are needed.

NEEDED: MEMBERS OF JOY SEEKING TO SERVE CHILDREN OF GOD — Share a children's message with the children of Joy to help them better understand the biblical lessons. Materials & message provided. Time commitment is 5-10 minutes per month during Sunday worship service and about 15 minutes prep time at home. Those interested should contact Laura Parnell or the church office at 281-762-3310.

HOLIDAY CARDS FOR NURSING HOMES AND SOLIDERS — Social Ministry is gathering Wednesday December 2nd at 7:30pm to write greetings and wishes for those who are far from families. Please bring Christmas cards and a donation for postage. Cards will be taken to local nursing homes and mailed to the Red Cross for distribution to soldiers/veterans. You can write to either or both. We will provide High School volunteer hours. All are welcome to participate.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY — Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. The focus of the study is the classic work by Dietrich Bonhoeffer "*The Cost of Discipleship*". All men are invited! Contact Mike Meyer for additional information. It's not too late to join us!

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.

MAGAZINES NEEDED — for local nursing homes. Place in the basket in the Narthex.

BIRTHDAYS — 11/23 Zach White; 11/24 Chelsea Goates; 11/27 Renae Randel; 11/28 Tim Work

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 Cantos, 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; Pr. Bazellel Hernandez

Serving Jesus This Sunday

	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Altar Flowers	In celebration of James Goates Family Birthdays	
Altar Guild	D. Bray/K & W Faucett/B. Marvin/B. McDow	
Ushers	Jim & Cari White	Greg & Irene Carleton
Acolyte	Joshua John	Abby Timberlake
Liturgist	Dan Strode	Corinne Light
Lector	Bob Tesch	Sandy Wohlert
Cantor	Dan Strode	
Child Sermon	Jerry Daniels	Tracy Posey
Communion	Betty Christ/Becky Geary/Larry Mikeska	
Audio	Beth Horstman	James Goates
Counters	Tammy Soward/Melissa Mikeska	

Serving Jesus Next Sunday

	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Altar Flowers	To the Glory of God	
Altar Guild	D. Bray/K & W Faucett/B. Marvin/B. McDow	
Ushers	Zack & Courtney White	Mike & Kayla Posey
Acolyte	Cory Leith	Timmy Hamner
Liturgist	Darin Mielke	Chuck Canterbury
Lector	Cari White	Becky Geary
Cantor	Darin Mielke	
Child Sermon	Laura Parnell	Tracy Posey
Communion	Joy Hopkins/Denyse Bray/John Garrou	
Audio	Beth Horstman	Aspen Timberlake
Counters	Kathy Gann/Bob Jahn	

CONGREGATIONAL WEBSITE — www.joyrichmond.org

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

Our Daily Joy!

QUESTIONS OF FAITH: My Plans or God's Purpose — Week of November 22, 2009

Monday, November 23

2 Corinthians 6

Read 2 Corinthians 5:17, 5:20–6:13. What does it mean to be a new creation, reconciled to God because Jesus bore our sin? Isaiah 61:10 and Zechariah 3:1-5 help us understand the phrase “become the righteousness of God” (2 Corinthians 5:21). In light of our standing in Jesus, how does Paul tell us we are to live in 2 Corinthians 6? Do we, as servants of God, “commend ourselves in every way” (6:4), enduring with joyful hearts, because of our love for the Lord? 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 had obvious implications for Corinthians living in a decadent, pagan society. What does it mean for us today in light of our call to love others and point them to Jesus? Pray about all of this.

Tuesday, November 24

2 Corinthians 7

As we approach Thanksgiving and Advent, we might ask ourselves, “Are we grateful for all the Lord has done for us?” and “How might we prepare our hearts to celebrate the first Advent (birth) of Jesus and anticipate Jesus’ second Advent (his return)?” Ask the Spirit to mold and prepare your heart as you read Isaiah 64:8 and 2 Corinthians 7. Paul wants the Corinthians to live in ways that reflect their love and reverence for the Lord (7:1). Ponder 7:8-10 and Romans 2:4. How is guilt different from godly sorrow? Have you known the healing and joy of forgiveness? Pray that you will know the joy of loving and obeying the Lord (see John 14:15, 14:23a; 15:9-11).

Wednesday, November 25

2 Corinthians 8

Paul, in 2 Corinthians 8, helps us to clearly see the correlation between our relationship with the Lord and our relationship with money and possessions. As we prepare for Thanksgiving and look ahead to Advent, it is an excellent time to ask the Spirit to enable us to see that the truest and only lasting joy is in Jesus. Spend time in prayer. Now read 2 Corinthians 8. Many today are struggling financially. How might Paul’s words instruct those who are in need, those who have enough, and those who are blessed with abundance? What might we learn from the Macedonians’ example (8:2-5)? Meditate on 8:8-9. Read 1 Chronicles 29:9-14. Pray.

Thursday, November 26

2 Corinthians 9

This text is appropriate for Thanksgiving, for in it Paul speaks about both receiving and giving with thankful hearts. On Thanksgiving we often recall our blessings with gratitude, but it is also a time to celebrate the joy of giving, of sharing. Do we thank God for the amazing privilege of being able to give? Think of a time when you gave extravagantly and, perhaps, even anonymously; remember the joy! Read 2 Corinthians 9. Now read 9:10-15 again with Jeremiah 33:14-16. Allow God’s goodness to move you to thanksgiving and praise.

Friday, November 27

2 Corinthians 10

In many ways, 2 Corinthians 10 seems to defend Paul’s ministry, and, at first glance, we might see little that has relevance for us today. Pray for insight as you read the chapter. Pause and ponder again 10:2-5b, which reminds us that we do not live by the world’s standards, and that we must take captive every thought and make it obedient to Christ. Also ponder 10:17-18, which reminds us to remain humble and to live for an audience of one. That one is not ourselves. When we love and obey the Lord, he uses us to love others in ways that honor God. Pray.

Saturday, November 28

2 Corinthians 11

False teachers were leading the Corinthians astray. In 2 Corinthians 11, Paul writes about the insidious nature of deception. We, too, are vulnerable to the wiles of the enemy and must be on guard. Read 2 Corinthians 11:1-4, 11:14 and 1 Peter 5:8-9. Now read 2 Corinthians 11:1-15. Stop and pray that you will not be deceived but will always discern God’s truth. In 2 Corinthians 11:16-33, Paul tells his own faith story. Notice that he could easily boast of his own credentials, but he knows that all glory must go to God. Do we live and serve for temporal acclaim, or is our desire to honor and glorify the Lord in all circumstances? Pray as the Spirit leads you.

Sunday, November 29

Psalms 95

If possible, stand and begin reading Psalm 95 aloud; when you get to 95:6, kneel and read the rest of the Psalm in that posture. When you read the warnings in 95:7b-11, ask yourself if there is hardness in your heart of which you need to repent. Now read Psalm 95:1-7a again. Do you worship the Lord both with joyful, jubilant exuberance and quiet humility? Do you acknowledge our great God as Lord, King, and Maker? Reflecting on the Lord’s majestic greatness, infinite love and mercy, and ineffable holiness, have you yielded to the Lord and worshipped with your heart, your voice, and your entire life? Pray for greater understanding about true worship.