

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 29, 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 Gross 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** — **ADVENT 1**
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a
— Christian Education: 9:15a
— Joy 101-13: 6p
- Monday** — JW Bible Study: 7p
— Joyful Tooters: 7p
— Joy Choir: 7:00p
- Tuesday** — JW Bible Study: 10:30a
- Wednesday** — Pericope Study: 9:30a
— Confirmation: 6:30p
— Card Signing Party 7:30p
- Thursday** — PB@J: 7:30p
— Men's Bible Study: 7:30p
- Next Sunday** — **ADVENT 2**
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a
— Christian Education: 9:15a
— Joy 101-14: 6p

—Live, Love & Serve with Joy!

Ministry Opportunities

FAMILY ADVENT EVENT — Families will meet in the Sanctuary today for a special Advent opening and then go to SS classrooms for a special Chrismon Craft: an ornament for our Christmass Tree. 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.

ADULT CLASS — Sunday Adult Class begins at 9:30 a.m. Dec. 6, 13, 20 class will focus on the "Purpose of 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.

HOLIDAY CARDS FOR NURSING HOMES AND SOLIDERS — Social Ministry is gathering Wednesday Dec. 2nd at 7:30p to write greetings for those who are far from family. Bring Christmas cards and a postage donation. Cards will be taken to local nursing homes and mailed to the Red Cross for distribution to soldiers & veterans. Write to either or both. We will provide High School volunteer hours. All are welcome.

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

KRAUSE CHRISTMAS TREE — We have partnered with Krause Children's Center to support the 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.

SAVE THE DATE! — Annual Congregational Meeting, Part 1 — next Sunday, Dec. 6th at noon. We will elect disciples to serve on council, Nominating Committee and Audit Teams. We will act on the proposed resolution from council and we will act on the 2010 Ministry Spending Guide. Your presence is assumed.

TIME TO PREPARE — December 12th 10am to Noon Cookie Exchange, Church decorating, and Ornament Exchange. Bring 4-5 doz cookies to exchange, an ornament to pass on and help prepare the sanctuary for Christmass worship. Everyone is welcome to come!

NEEDED: SERVING OUR CHILDREN — Share a children's message with the children of Joy to help them better understand the biblical lessons. Materials & message provided. Time commitment is 3-5 minutes per month during worship and about 15 minutes prep time at home. Those interested should contact Laura Parnell or the church office at 281-762-3310.

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!

INVITATION — The Joy congregation is cordially invited for cake and coffee in the fellowship Hall on Dec 6th following the first service to celebrate Duane Boenig's 80th Birthday. Your presence is your gift.

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.

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

BIRTHDAYS — 11/29 Larry Mikeska, Rhiana Swartz; 12/1 Matt Lyons, Kathy Young; 12/2 Christian Randel; 12/3 Felba Schatz; 12/4 Duane Boenig, Rachel Divin;

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 | 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 | Joyce Hopkins/Denyse Bray/John Garrou | |
| Audio | Beth Horstman | Aspen Timberlake |
| Counters | Kathy Gann/Bob Jah | |

Serving Jesus Next Sunday

| | <u>8:00 a.m.</u> | <u>10:30 a.m.</u> |
|----------------------|--|--------------------|
| Altar Flowers | In celebration of Larry Jacobsen & Sue Jahns Birthdays | |
| Altar Guild | M. Willis/C. Reider/ A. Reider/S. Morris | |
| Ushers | Al & Candace Rieder | Bill & Hazel Peska |
| Acolyte | Mitchell Hong | Trey Timberlake |
| Liturgist | Fred Kunzler | Susan Krabbe |
| Lector | Alan Lowe | John Garrou |
| Cantor | Fred Kunzler | |
| Child Sermon | | |
| Communion | Gregg & Irene Carleton/Judy Ronning | |
| Audio | Beth Horstman | James Goates |
| Counters | Tammy Soward/Allen Schoppe | |

CONGREGATIONAL WEBSITE — www.joyrichmond.org

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

Our Daily Joy!

THE ADVENT CONSPIRACY: Worship – Week of November 29, 2009

Monday, November 30 **2 Corinthians 11**

Pastor Jeff Marian said, "Advent calls us to look back and remember the gift of the incarnation; ahead, in anticipation of the One who promises to return; and within, to remember whose we are and how we are called to live." Pray that the Spirit will instruct you as you read of Paul's glorious revelation and deep trouble in 2 Corinthians 12. Ponder the sufficiency of God's grace (12:9). Do you rely on your temporal strength or the Lord's infinite sufficiency? Is the Lord's desire echoed in Paul's words, "what I want is you" (12:14)? Once again read 2 Corinthians 12:10 and Pastor Jeff's words about Advent. What is the Lord saying to you today? Pray.

Tuesday, December 1 **2 Corinthians 13**

Paul expresses concerns as he anticipates a third visit to Corinth. A tentmaker, Paul is self-supporting and has given freely of himself on behalf of the Corinthians; nevertheless, they are questioning his call as an apostle and are ignoring his warnings and calls to repentance. Read 2 Corinthians 12:11-13:14. Consider 12:15. Do we take God's infinite love and grace lightly? Ponder 12:19. Paul's intent was to strengthen the Corinthians in their faith. Do we long to bless and strengthen others during Advent, and always? How does 13:5 relate to Pastor Jeff's Advent invitation? Did you notice the reference to the Trinity (13:14)? Worship our Lord and King.

Wednesday, December 2 **1 Thessalonians 1**

Paul encouraged the Corinthians to examine themselves to see if they were living in the faith (2 Corinthians 13:5). In contrast to Paul's concerns about the Corinthians, we see his joyful affirmation concerning the faith of the believers in Thessalonica. Read 1 Thessalonians 1. Did you notice the reference to faith, hope, and love (1:3)? Did the Thessalonians have easy lives (1:6)? What/who was the source of their joy (1:6)? Pray that your entire life will be filled with faith, love, hope, and joy this Advent, as the Spirit draws you nearer to Jesus.

Thursday, December 3 **1 Thessalonians 2**

Begin reading 1 Thessalonians 2, stopping at the end of 2:4. Do you live to please God? Pause and pray. Now read the rest of Chapter 2, noticing the many ways Paul attests to his selfless love for the Thessalonians. Watch for references to the witness of Paul's, Timothy's, and Silas' lives among the Thessalonians. All of us are called to witness with our words and with our lives. Why are both necessary? Read 2:18 with Ephesians 6:10-18. Spiritual warfare is real, but we need not fear; Jesus is far stronger than Satan and his minions. Now savor 2:19-20 (also see 2 Corinthians 3:2-3). Pray that the witness of your life will be winsome, and that you will live for God's glory.

Friday, December 4 **1 Thessalonians 3**

Did you notice, in 1 Thessalonians 1:1, that the epistle comes from Paul, Silas, and Timothy? Paul and Silas brought the Gospel to Thessalonica (Acts 17:1-9), and Timothy visited the believers there just prior to the writing of the letter. Read 1 Thessalonians 3:1-5. Paul speaks of being persecuted for the faith, of his desire to visit the believers in Thessalonica, and of his decision to send Timothy ahead to strengthen and encourage them. Now read 3:6-13 to hear the news Timothy brought back to Paul and Silas. Paul also shares his deepest heart's desires for the Thessalonian believers. What are his desires? Read 3:12-13 again, and use it to guide your prayer.

Saturday, December 5 **1 Thessalonians 4**

1 Thessalonians 4 begins with instructions about living to please God. Read 4:1-12. Is your desire to live for an audience of One (also see Ephesians 5:10 and 1 Thessalonians 2:4), rather than to please yourself or others? Notice that Paul speaks about holy living and love for others as ways that we demonstrate our desire to please God. Paul also tells believers to be industrious, but he is not speaking of frantic busyness. Pray that you will honor God with your time as you seek to live for him during the busy Advent season. As chapter 4 continues, Paul responds to some misconceptions and questions about believers who have died. Read 4:13-18 and Job 19:23-27. Worship our Redeemer.

Sunday, December 6 **Psalms 138**

Today, let your Advent prayer be that you will rejoice in the incarnation (John 1:14-18; 2 Corinthians 9:15), eagerly anticipate Jesus' return (Luke 17:24; Acts 1:10-11), and live every day for his glory (Matthew 5:16). As you hold this prayer in your heart, read Psalm 138. Notice the references to prayer and to God's unfailing, eternal love and faithfulness. Stop and recount how the Lord has been faithful to you. Commit to making worship the hallmark of Advent and of your life. Worship the Lord with song, by reading from Psalms 148-150, or with your own words.