

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 December 27, 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 vice-chairperson, Becky Ohm 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

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

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Vacant — 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 — **CHRISTMASS 1**
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a
— Christian Education: 9:15a

Monday — Joyful Tooters: 7p
— Joy Choir: 7:00p

Wednesday — Pericope Study: 9:30a

Thurs-Fri — Office Closed

Thursday — **NEW YEAR'S EVE**

Friday — **NAME OF JESUS**
— **NEW YEAR'S DAY**

Next Sunday — **CHRISTMASS 2**
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a
— Christian Education: 9:15a
— Installation of Church Council
— Sr. High Coffeehouse: 9:15a
— Jr. High Chill & Spill: 9:15a

—Live, Love & Serve with Joy!

Ministry Opportunities

JOY 101 — Checking to see if we have interest in beginning another Joy 101 session if we have enough interest we will begin a new class on Sunday, Jan. 3rd at 6:00 p.m. A signup sheet is in the Narthex if you are interested or contact the office at 281-762-3310.

END OF THE YEAR REMINDER — *Thank you* for your generous financial support of our ministry at Joy this year! For tax advantages, gifts to Joy need to be received at Joy prior to the end of the calendar year. Yearly statements will be printed and sent in January.

INSTALLATION OF 2010 COUNCIL — on Sunday, January 3rd at both worship services.

OFFERING ENVELOPES — The 2010 Offering envelopes are now available in the Narthex for families to pick up.

FDIC MEETING — will be on Monday, Jan. 5th at 6:30p. Join us in planning for 2010! For information contact Tracy Posey.

SOCIAL MINISTRY MEETING — will be held on Thurs., Jan. 14th at 6:30p. For information contact Laura Cabato.

SAVE YOUR CHRISTMASS TREES! — The annual trip to Quintana Beach for the Dune Restoration Project/Bonfire is scheduled for Sat. Jan. 16th! Drop your trees off next to the education buildings on the lawn area by Jan. 15th. Watch for more info in the future! If you have any questions or you would like to help, contact Doni or Tammy Soward.

LUTHERHILL MOTHER/DAUGHTER RETREAT — is being held the weekend of Jan. 22nd-24th. This retreat is a time to celebrate the special relationship between a mother and daughter - no matter what age. Cost is \$70 over 13 years old, \$40 - 12 and under. Register online at www.lutherhill.org.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, PART 2 — On Sunday, Jan. 31st at 1:00 p.m. we will hold part two of our annual congregational meeting celebrating our ministries at Joy! The celebration will be held at the Pecan Grove Country Club. Plan now to be a part of our annual celebration of all God has accomplished through Joy in 2009!

FAUX FRUITCAKE FUNDRAISER!! — Thank you to everyone who participated in our Faux Fruitcake sale! We raised \$1045.00 for matching funds from Thrivent! In addition we have received generous matching funds to the total from two families at Joy!

2010 SERVING SCHEDULE — We are currently working on the new serving schedule and list of servers for 2010. If you did not fill out a Time and Talent sheet for the new year please notify the office if you are still interested in serving in your currently ministry i.e. usher, reader, assisting minister. If you have not served in the past we welcome anyone who would like to assist at Sunday Worship services! There is a great need for Audio Techs and Altar Guild. Please email the office at office@joyrichmond.org or call 281-762-3310.

2010 FLOWER CHART — has been posted on the bulletin board next to the kitchen. Be sure to specify the celebration/memorial you would like acknowledged in the toolkit.

PRAYER SHAWL KNITTING GROUP — Meets at every Friday, 10 a.m. at Mugz Coffee Bar. If you are interested in knitting prayer shawls and/or lap robes for those in need, join us!

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY — Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. 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. They are also in great need of men's shoes and work gloves. Donations are always needed and can be placed in the bin in the Narthex.

BIRTHDAYS — 12/27 Andrew & Brandon Walquist; 12/29 Michael Parnell; 12/30 James Goates, Debbie Manella & Spencer Work; 12/31 Megan Geary

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 the Goates' Anniversary	
Altar Guild	M. Willis/C. Reider/ A. Reider/S. Morris	
Ushers	Darwin & Bev Marvin	Dan & Kathy Strode
Acolyte	Joshua John	Timmy Hamner
Liturgist	Emily Sattler	Corinne Light
Lector	Mike Gann	Irene Carleton
Cantor	Emily Sattler	
Child Sermon	Jerry Daniels	Tracy Posey
Communion	Shirley Morris/Denyse Bray/Joyce Hopkins	
Audio	Beth Horstman	Aspen Timberlake
Counters	Kathy Gann/Fred Kunzler	

Serving Jesus Next Sunday

	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Altar Flowers	In celebration of the Willis' 62 nd Anniversary	
Altar Guild	C. Bolner/M. Mikeska/M. Peveto/P. Shipp	
Ushers	Bob & June Tesch	Greg & Irene Carleton
Acolyte	Cory Leith	Hayden Posey
Liturgist	Fred Kunzler	John Garrou
Lector	Jill Kunzler	Doris Goates
Cantor	Fred Kunzler	
Child Sermon		
Communion	Paula Curry/Shirley Morris/Larry Mikeska	
Audio	Beth Horstman	James Goates
Counters	Kathy Gann/Fred Kunzler	

CONGREGATIONAL WEBSITE — www.joyrichmond.org

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

Our Daily Joy!

THE ADVENT CONSPIRACY: Love – Week of December 28, 2009

Monday, December 28

Colossians 2

Read Colossians 1:3-6, 1:9-14, 2:2-3, and 2:6-7. Pause and pray that God's word will take root in your heart and that the Spirit will build you up in faith, hope, and love, so that you will live a life pleasing to God in every way. Now read Colossians 2:1-10. Reflect on the wonder of Jesus (2:9). Paul's words are rich and merit reflection. Consider Colossians 2:11-14 and 2 Corinthians 5:17 with Ezekiel 36:25-27, which embraces promises for Israel and for believers. Now read Colossians 2:16-23. Compare 2:2-3 and 9-10 with 2:17. How do these teachings about Jesus help us stand against the spiritual forces that might lead us astray? Pray with a grateful heart (2:7), rejoicing in Jesus.

Tuesday, December 29

Colossians 3

Read Colossians 3:1-4 with Hebrews 12:1-3 and 1 John 3:2-3. Pause and pray. Read Colossians 3:1-17. How does Paul define greed (3:5)? Do we see sin in others more easily than in ourselves? Read 3:5-14 again; confess your sin and pray that you will be clothed with the characteristics of Jesus (3:12-17). Now read Colossians 3:18 – 4:1. How do these directives for Christian households, which speak of selflessness, reflect the heart of Jesus (Philippians 2:6-8)? *Side note:* Though slavery was prevalent in biblical times, God continually sets captives and slaves free. God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt; God spoke to the issue of slavery (Deuteronomy 15:12-15; 23:15-16); and God frees us from the greatest enslavement: slavery to sin (John 8:34-36). Pray.

Wednesday, December 30

Colossians 4

Paul wrote Colossians while imprisoned, yet he doesn't ask the Colossians to pray for his freedom. For what does Paul ask them to pray (4:2-6)? In the context of 4:2-6, what does it mean to make the most of time and every opportunity? Paul's passion is to share the Gospel, the good news of Jesus. Pause and pray that this will also be your desire. Read 4:7-18. What does Paul write about Epaphras (4:12)? For what does Epaphras pray? Let his prayer concerns guide your time of prayer fellowship with the Lord.

Thursday, December 31

Hebrews 1

Many believe that Hebrews was originally written to encourage Jewish Christians facing suffering and persecution. They must not turn back to the old covenant, but rather stand strong in their faith, fixing their eyes on Jesus (12:2). Begin by reading John 1:1-3, 1:14, and 1:18; Colossians 1:16, 1:19a and 2:9; and Hebrews 1:3 and 1:8. What glorious truths these are for meditation on the brink of a new year! Now read all of Hebrews 1. Bask in the wondrous glory of Jesus. Notice the promise and prophecy of 1:10-12. Thank God for the comfort of 1:14 (see also Psalm 91:11). Pray!

Friday, January 1

Hebrews 2

Yesterday we read about the glorious identity of Jesus, who came to die to pay the penalty for our sin, that we might live in God's presence forever. Today's text begins with a warning. What is it (Hebrews 2:1)? How, or through whom, did God testify about salvation (2:2-4)? Read Hebrews 2:5-9. Some versions translate the pronouns in 2:7-8 as "them/their;" some as "him/his." Read 2:10-18. Ponder 2:9, 2:14-15 and 2:17 with Romans 5:12, 5:15-19, and 2 Corinthians 5:21. With a thankful heart, tell Jesus of your love for him. Spend time in worship and praise.

Saturday, January 2

Hebrews 3

Read Hebrews 3:1 and 12:1-2a. Pray you will fix your thoughts and eyes on Jesus. Read Hebrews 3:1-6. The writer of Hebrews explains (and will continue to explain) that Jesus is greater than Moses (the New Covenant, sealed with Jesus' blood, is greater than the Old, sealed with the blood of animal sacrifices). "Christianity grew out of Judaism just as the flower grows out of the root. Hidden away in the ritual of the root was the color, the fragrance, and the beauty of the flower of grace." (*Real Faith*, C.S. Price). Hold this image as we continue to read through Hebrews. Read Jeremiah 31:31-33, Matthew 5:17-18, 26:26-29, and 1 Corinthians 11:25. Hebrews 3:7-19 warns about the danger of hard hearts. Read 3:7-19, and pray your heart will stay tender and true.

Sunday, January 3

Psalms 146

Read Psalm 146:1-2 aloud. Consider that God is worthy of all honor and praise. Ponder Psalm 22:3 (NKJV): "You are holy, enthroned in the praises of Israel (your people)," and Psalm 100:4 (NKJV) "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise." Notice the transition from thanksgiving to praise as the worshiper nears the presence of the Lord. Now read all of Psalm 146. In whom alone should we trust and put our hope? What does it mean for you to know that God is faithful forever (146:6b)? Spend time in worship and praise.