

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 6, 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

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** — **ADVENT 2**
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a
— Christian Education: 9:15a
— Jr High Chill & Spill: 9:15a
— Sr High Coffeehouse: 9:15a
— Annual Congregation Mtg. Part 1: Noon
- Monday** — Joyful Tooters: 7p
— Joy Choir: 7:00p
- Tuesday** — Joy Choir at FMC: 7p
- Wednesday** — Pericope Study: 9:30a
— Confirmation: 6:30p
- Thursday** — Social Ministry Team Mtg.: 6:30p
— PB@J: 7:30p
— Men's Bible Study: 7:30p
- Saturday** — Cookie/Ornament Exchange
& Decorate Church: 10a-Noon
- Next Sunday** — **ADVENT 3**
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a
— Christian Education: 9:15a

—Live, Love & Serve with Joy!

Ministry Opportunities

IN LOVING MEMORY — Charles Breuer, a longtime disciple of Joy, was called from the Church Militant to the Church Triumphant on Wed, Dec. 2nd. Worship celebrating the promise of life eternal will be held at 10 a.m. on Tues, Dec. 8th at Joy. Please keep his family in your prayers.

TODAY! — **Annual Congregational Meeting, Part 1** — 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.

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

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

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

BEARS, BLANKETS & BOOKS — This is the last Sunday to collect items for the "Cozy Little Christmas" gift drive sponsored by the Fort Bend Family Health Center.

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.

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 join us!

A JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM — Live Nativity at New Hope Lutheran Church on Sat. Dec. 19th at 6-8 p.m. Experience the wonder.

CHRISTMASS CANTATA — Choir members from Faith United Methodist and Bay City Presbyterian Church will be singing with the Joy Choir on Sunday, Dec. 20th at 7:00 p.m. Join us for this wonderful evening!

CHRISTMASS EVE WORSHIP — Service times are 5p - Family/Children's Service; 7:30p - Service of Lessons & Carols; and 10p - Candlelight Services. Servers are needed at all services; please sign up in the Narthex.

2010 FLOWER CHART — has been posted on the bulletin board next to the kitchen.

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!

SHADE TREE MINISTRY — Appreciates your generous donations of Rice and Beans. They are also in great need of men's shoes. Donations are always needed and can be placed in the bin in the Narthex.

BIRTHDAYS — 12/6 Larry Jacobsen, Sue Jahn; 12/9 Jerry Daniels; 12/11 Carol Boenig, Jason Vaughn; 12/12 Weldon Faucett

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	Celebration of Larry Jacobsen & Sue Jahn's 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	

Serving Jesus Next Sunday

	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Altar Flowers	In celebration of Wohlert Family Birthdays	
Altar Guild	M. Willis/C. Reider/ A. Reider/S. Morris	
Ushers	Cliff & Shelly Halvorsen	Larry & Melissa Mikeska
Acolyte	Kelsey White	Rhianna Schwartz
Liturgist	Bill Bray	Dan Strode
Lector	Jerry Daniels	Gregg Carleton
Cantor	Bill Bray	
Child Sermon		
Communion	Hazel Peska/Marilyn Blaschke/Tracy Posey	
Audio	B&A Walquist	
Counters	Bill Peska/Bob Jahn	

CONGREGATIONAL WEBSITE — www.joyrichmond.org

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

Our Daily Joy!

THE ADVENT CONSPIRACY: Rebel — Week of December 6, 2009

Monday, December 7

1 Thessalonians 5

We have been speaking of Advent as a time to remember the Incarnation, anticipate Jesus' return, and live to honor him. Remembering this, begin by reading Mark 13:26-27, 32-37 and Acts 1:7-11. The Thessalonian believers wonder about these things; Paul reminds them of truths they have previously been taught; and he exhorts them on how they should live each day with faith, hope, devotion to the Lord, and love for others. Read 1 Thessalonians 5. Ask the Lord to help you live faithfully and with love. Ponder 5:19 with Ephesians 4:30. What does this mean for you? And how can we give thanks in all circumstances (5:16-18)? Memorize 5:16-18. Pray.

Tuesday, December 8

2 Thessalonians 1

Is your heart and life open to and aware of Jesus' abiding presence (John 15) throughout the day? In 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17, Paul wrote, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing." Pray that you will live in this fullness. Paul wrote 2 Thessalonians to correct wrong behavior that resulted from misconceptions about Jesus' return. Yet Paul also commends the believers for their faith, love, and perseverance in the midst of persecution and trials. Read 2 Thessalonians 1. The words "the name of our Lord Jesus" (1:12) refer to more than a moniker. Jesus' name embraces his nature, character, attributes, holiness, love, and submission to God's will. Pray using 1:11-12.

Wednesday, December 9

2 Thessalonians 2

The Thessalonians had been misled by a letter, supposedly from Paul. In 2 Thessalonians 2, Paul corrects their misconceptions about the second coming of Jesus, assuring them that it is still future. He reminds them of events that will happen before Jesus' return for his people. Read Chapter 2, not with trepidation, but with confidence, rejoicing in the faithfulness, power, and glory of our Redeemer (2:8). Ponder Paul's words about the truth and the lie (2:9-12 with John 8:28-32, 44-47). Reread 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17 and spend time in prayer.

Thursday, December 10

2 Thessalonians 3

Paul asks the Thessalonian believers to pray, and he warns them about idleness. Read 3:1-5 and let Paul's words in 3:5 guide your prayer right now. How is the Lord speaking to your heart in regard to sharing God's love? In what way(s) do you need to embrace Christ's perseverance/steadfastness? Read 3:6-18, noticing that Paul begins with a reference to the name of Jesus. Recall what this means. Consider Paul's instructions about persevering in doing good and longing to restore those who are walking in disobedience. Pray.

Friday, December 11

1 John 1

As the first epistle/letter of John begins, John testifies both to Jesus' eternal and human natures. Begin by reading Genesis 1:1; John 1:1-18; and 1 John 1:1-4. Sit in prayerful wonder, stand amazed, or prostrate yourself as you realize anew that Jesus, whom John saw and touched, is eternal God, God incarnate! Ponder Jesus' glorious, nail-pierced hands as you read John 20:27-29. Now read 1 John 1:5-10. John says he is sharing with us what he heard from Jesus (1:5a); read 1:5-10 again. Ask Jesus what he is saying to you, today, this moment. Worship and pray.

Saturday, December 12

1 John 2

Read 1 John 1:5-2:2. The problem is sin! Who is the answer (1:7; 2:1-2), and how are we to respond (1:8-9)? Pray, asking the Lord to prepare your heart to encounter him in his word. Read 1 John 2:3-11. Compare John's words here with Jesus' words in John 13:34-35; 14:15,21. What commands of Jesus is John reiterating? Now read the rest of 1 John 2. Are you encouraged through 2:12-14? Does the admonition in 2:15-17 challenge you? In 2:18ff, we are warned about denying Jesus. John refers to those who do so as antichrists, pre-figuring the one who will deceive many (2 Thessalonians 2). The anointing from the Holy One might well be a reference to the Spirit (John 14:17, 26; 15:26; 16:13-15). This Advent and always, pray that Jesus will be your joy and fulfillment.

Sunday, December 13

Psalms 85

In 1 John 1:1-2:2, we read that God is light and Jesus is God Incarnate. We read about the curse of sin and the cleansing from sin that is found in Jesus. As you read Psalm 85, look for some of the same messages. We live in a world that often winks at sin and refuses to bow to God's sovereignty. But God, in love, continues to reach out to us. Read Psalm 85 again, looking for affirmations of God's steadfast love and faithfulness. Ponder God's love made manifest in Jesus. With the eyes of your heart, see his glorious, nail-pierced hands. Worship the Lord.