

JOY to the World this Week

JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH / 717 FM 359, RICHMOND, TX 77469 / (281) 762-3310

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

PoWeR SuRGe Toolkit for February 8, 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; **Rachel Divin** — Secretary; Beth Horstman — Treasurer; Dave Willis — Financial Secretary

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Bill Barr — Property; **Rachel Divin** — JoyLife; **Doris Goates** — Worship & Music; **Tracy Posey** — Youth & Family Ministry; **Laura Cabato** — Social Ministry; **Becky Ohm** — Stewardship; **Jeanette Richards** — Communication; **John Garrou** — Evangelism

MINISTRY LEADERS

June Tesch — Joyful Women; **Tracy Posey** — Coordinator FDIC; **Jason & Jeni Morrison** — Jr. High; **Shena Timberlake** — Sr. High; **Beth Horstman** — NCD Health Team; **Mike Gann** — Growing in Joy

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** — EPIPHANY 5
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a
— Christian Education: 9:15a
- Monday** — LaCocina: 6:30p
— Joyful Tooters: 7p
— Church Council: 7:30p
— Joy Choir: 7:30p
- Tuesday** — JW Bible Study: 10a & 7p
- Wednesday** — Text Study: 9:30a
— Size Transition: 7:30a
- Thursday** — Men's Bible Study: 7p
— Worship Team: 7:30p
- Next Sunday** — EPIPHANY 6
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a
— Christian Education: 9:15a

—Live, Love & Serve with Joy!

Ministry Opportunities

COPIER CODES — Due to frequent repairs and help in controlling the cost of copies & paper, we will now issue user codes for each ministry to access the copy machine. The code for your ministry will be issued only after you have been trained on proper use of the machine. Please contact Terri for training & code.

LIBRARY NEWS — Our Library will soon be open for checking out books. If anyone has any books they would like to contribute to the library please bring them in as soon as possible. Thanks!

WATER TO THRIVE — Jr. High is continuing to collect money for Water to Thrive in the well in the Narthex.

JOYFUL WOMEN BIBLE STUDY — is underway thru April 21st every Tuesday at 10 a.m. & 7:30 p.m. Study guides are \$9 and provide weekly lessons to complete. Contact for more info or questions June Tesch.

RUTH BIBLE STUDY — Wednesday, Feb. 18th at 7 p.m. All women are welcome. For more info contact Sherry Barr or Rachel Divin.

TRI-SYNOD MEN'S GATHERING — at Triumphant Love LC in Austin, Tx Feb. 20th & 21st. The theme is "Log On. Connect & Serve—God's Work. Our Hands". Newest post on <http://gulfcoastmen.blogspot.com/>. The goal is to have at least 2-3 men from each congregation attend.

ASH WEDNESDAY — Feb. 25th - Worship services at 6 a.m. & 7:30 p.m. Lenten Worship services every Wednesday beginning March 4th at 7:30 p.m.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES — will begin Sunday, March 1st at noon. Is your child ready to commune? That's up to you as a parent! Call the Church office to sign up or Pr. Tim for questions/discussion.

LYO SR HIGH COMMUNITY OF SERVICE — on Feb. 27th thru March 1st. Sr. High LYO will serve the needs of our neighbors in the greater Brenham area.

LADIES RETREAT — Indulge yourself in a weekend of relaxation and rejuvenation amidst the natural beauty of Lutherhill on March 6th thru 8th. For more info and registration go to www.lutherhill.org.

FAITHFUL FUN FOR ADULTS — Via de Cristo. Need a break to get out of the craziness of life and spend some fun and relaxing time growing in relationship with God? Come to Camp Lutherhill for Via de Cristo. Men's weekend - April 23rd-26th, Women's weekend - April 30th - May 2nd. Contact Pr. Christ, Pr. Kastner, Becky Ohm or Jeanette & Milton Richards if you have questions.

LUTHERHILL SPRING RETREATS — will be March 28-29th for upper elementary youth and April 4-5th for Jr. & Sr. High students. Look for more info on the Lutherhill website at www.lutherhill.org. Cost is \$50pp.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SNACKS — are a continual need. Please bring individual juice boxes, individual packages of teddy grahams, cheese nips, goldfish, fruit snacks, pretzels, Ritz Bitz, etc. (Think as low sugar as possible!) Please place them in the green tub in the kitchen. Thank you for your support of our SS teachers and students!

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY — Thursday evenings, 7:30 - 9 p.m. at Joy.

THE PASSION PLAY @ OBERAMMERGAU — Joy is planning a Lutherland tour with attendance at this once every decade event in June 2010. There is still time to sign up. If interested, check out the brochures available in the Foyer.

BIRTHDAYS — 2/9 Cynthia Bolner & Kyel Hodenfield; 2/10 Nicholas Christ, Megyn Schrey & Hannah Schwartz; 2/11 Donna Godwin & Patrick McStravick; 2/12 Barbara John

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. Herb Palmer

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

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

Our Inter-Lutheran Ministry Partners: St. Paul's, Rosenberg: Interim, Peace, Rosenberg: Pr. Norm Albertson.

Serving Jesus Today

	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Altar Flowers	Celebration of Joshua & Nicholas Christ's Birthdays & Celebration of Otto & Felba Schaatz 72 nd Anniversary	
Altar Guild	D. Bray/K & W Faucett/B. Marvin/B. McDow	
Ushers	Mike & Kathy Gann	Jim & Pam Hill
Acolyte	Timmy Hamner	Kristen Curry
Liturgist	Cari White	Chuck Canterbury
Lector	Emily Sattler	Dan Strode
Cantor	Darin Mielke	
Child Sermon	Jerry Daniels	Tracy Posey
Communion	B. Horstman/J. Garrou/L. Mikeska	
Audio	Beth Horstman	Brianne Hodenfield
Counters	Allen Schoppe/Melissa Mikeska	

Serving Jesus Next Sunday

	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Altar Flowers	Celebration of Brandi & Randi Goates Birthdays	
Altar Guild	D. Bray/K & W Faucett/B. Marvin/B. McDow	
Ushers	D. Boenig & R. Godwin	Chuck & Kyle Canterbury
Acolyte	Ariel Landingier	Taylor Currie
Liturgist	Ashley Stutes	Susan Krabbe
Lector	Cari White	Pam Hill
Cantor	Darin Mielke	
Child Sermon	Laura Parnell	Shena Timberlake
Communion	B. Geary/M. Blaschke/D. Bray	
Audio	Courtney White	Aspen Timberlake
Counters	Bod Jahn/Jim Hill	

CONGREGATIONAL WEBSITE — www.joyrichmond.org

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

Our Daily Joy!

Seasons of Discipleship...Growing — Week of February 8, 2009

Monday, February 9

Growing

In our relationship with God, is there anything more basic and yet more profound than worship? Worship is recognizing God's worthiness. It is not contingent on blessings, circumstances, or our feelings; it is how we should respond to God because of who God is. It embraces thanksgiving and praise, but it is more. It includes our songs and liturgies, but it is broader and vaster, for it should be expressed in every action and breath of our lives. Read Psalm 34:1-8; Romans 12:1; Hebrews 13:15-16; and Revelation 4:8-11; 5:8-14. Ponder your response to God's ineffable worth. Quiet your heart; offer the Lord your life; worship the Lord!

Tuesday, February 10

"A Life Worthy of the Calling"

Read Ephesians 4:1. What does this mean? Meditate on the truth that the God of all creation is your Maker and Redeemer. Do you trust that God knows best what will fill your life with meaning and joy? Are we tempted to claim Jesus as Savior but reject him as Lord? Is your deepest desire to please God (*Ephesians 5:10*)? Read Ephesians 2:10 and 4:1-16; consider jotting down what you learn about living "a life worthy of the calling." Does living lives worthy of our calling seem too difficult? Read John 15:4-5. Thank Jesus for being all we need.

Wednesday, February 11

"A Mysterious Dance"

Our week's theme, "growing," is defined by a statement: "Disciples grow day-by-day into the likeness of Jesus through a mysterious dance of God's grace and our discipline." Ponder this as you read John 15:4-5; Acts 1:8a; and Ephesians 1:18-20; 2:8-10; 3:20-21; 4:1-16. Did you notice the emphasis on God's grace, provision, and power? What then is our part if our growth into the likeness of Jesus is all grace, all his work in us? What is our part in this "mysterious dance"? Ponder what it means to obey, yield, and submit as you read Romans 12:1. Pray.

Thursday, February 12

Prayer Is Vital!

Consider Jesus' words about prayer and his actual prayers on the night of his betrayal (*Luke 22:32,39-46; John 17:1-5,9,15-17,20-26*). Now ponder and pray Paul's prayer in Colossians 1:9-14; notice how 1:10 reiterates Ephesians 4:1. (*Colossians is another of Paul's prison letters*). Do we pray only about our temporal needs or do we also pray about growing spiritually, so that we will lead lives "worthy of the calling"? Prayer helps prepare our hearts to allow the Spirit to work in and through us for God's glory. Spend time in prayer before reading our theme text, Ephesians 4:1-16. What in the text did the Spirit impress on your heart? How will you respond?

Friday, February 13

"The Unity of the Spirit in the Bond of Peace"

How does "the unity of the Spirit" relate to growing in Christ-likeness? Slowly, prayerfully, read John 17 and Ephesians 4:1-16. Unity is not uniformity, but just what is it? Why is it important that it is "unity in and through the Spirit"? How does this relate to Jesus' teaching in John 13:34-35? Paul, in Ephesians 4:15, speaks of growing up "into him who is the Head, that is, Christ." Hold onto that truth and read Ephesians 4:16 again. What does all this have to do with growing into maturity as Paul describes it in Ephesians 4:13? If we are to grow into spiritual maturity, is our focus to be on unity and our growth, or on Jesus? Read Hebrews 12:1-3 and pray about this.

Saturday, February 14

Unity and Diversity

Read Romans 12:3-16; 1 Corinthians 12:1-13:13 (*Chapter 13 is perfect for Valentine's Day*); Ephesians 4:1-16; and 1 Peter 4:8-11, pausing to prayerfully ponder the concepts of unity and diversity rather than specific gifts. Why are Paul's words about Jesus' position (*Colossians 1:17-20*) important to our understanding of our unity and diversity within the body of Christ? Our theme is growing; how does the realization that we are part of a body and not "lone-ranger" Christians speak to our spiritual growth into maturity (*also see Hebrews 10:24-25*)? Ponder Paul's words about mutual encouragement/edification (*Romans 1:12*). Pray about whom you can encourage.

Sunday, February 15

Gifts and Fruit

Ponder again our theme defined: "Disciples grow day-by-day into the likeness of Jesus through a mysterious dance of God's grace and our discipline." Who receives spiritual gifts/graces (*1 Corinthians 12:7; Ephesians 4:7; 1 Peter 4:10*)? Gifts are not earned, but they must be "unwrapped." How do we unwrap our spiritual gift(s)? How are using our gifts to serve others and glorify God part of what it means to live lives worthy of our calling? Consider the gifts and also the fruit of the Spirit (*Galatians 5:22-23*); why is it important that, as our gifts are used, the fruit is demonstrated in our lives as we serve others and honor the Lord? Gifts are intended to bring joy, and God blesses us with gladness as we use what he has so graciously given us. Pray about what this means for you.