

# JOY to the World this Week

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

Joy (ELCA) is a participating congregation with Lutheran CORE (Coalition for Reform)

## PoWeR SuRGe TAKE HOME TOOLS for March 14, 2010

CONGREGATIONAL WEBSITE — [www.joyrichmond.org](http://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.

**COFFEE & REFRESHMENTS** — Refreshments are available in the narthex between worship services.

**COMPLETE WORSHIP FOLDERS** — are available from the ushers for those who desire. Be sure and ask!

**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 narthex, 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— Becky Ohm in the 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 lay disciple for any reason, call the church office during regular office hours, or contact the Pastor directly at (832-549-4985).

### Office Hours

Monday — Friday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

### Joy Worship Schedule

#### **CELEBRATION WORSHIP — Sunday, 8:00a**

A traditional worship experience led by the Joy Choir, organ, Joyful Tooters, lay liturgists, and special music.

#### **SPIRIT TOUCHING SPIRIT — Sunday, 10:30a**

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

## 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

**Becky Ohm** — Council Chairperson; **John Garrou** — Council Vice-Chairperson; **Larry Mikeska** — Secretary; **Beth Horstman** — Treasurer; **Dave Willis** — Financial Secretary

### LEADERSHIP TEAM

**Laura Cabato** — Social Ministry; **Rick Curry** — Property; **Kathy Gann** — JoyLife; **John Garrou** — Evangelism; **Wayne Leith** — Stewardship; **Larry Mikeska** — Communication; **Tracy Posey** — Youth & Family Ministry (FDIC);

### MINISTRY LEADERS

**June Tesch** — Joyful Women; **Paula Curry** — Jr. High; **Shena Timberlake** — Sr. High; **Brett Carleton** — Growing in Joy (GIJ); **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** — Praise Band

## ***This week of Joy to the World —***

- Today** — **LENT 4**  
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a  
— Christian Education: 9:15a
- Mon-Fri** — Spring Break!
- Monday** — **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**  
— Joyful Tooters: 7p  
— Joy Choir: 7:30p
- Tuesday** — Pericope Study: 9:30a  
— Church Chat: 7:30p
- Wednesday** — Soup Supper: 6:30p  
— Teaching/Vespers: 7:30p
- Thursday** — Social Ministry Mtg: 6:30p  
— Men's Bible Study: 7:30p  
— Praise Band: 7:30p
- Next Sunday** — **LENT 5**  
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a  
— Christian Education: 9:15a  
— "Walk Across the Room": 6-7:30p

**—Live, Love & Serve with Joy!**

### **Ministry Opportunities**

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM** — will be celebrated today at the late service as John "Walker" Slade; son of Bill & Jaime becomes a child of God! Walker's godparents are Lester M. (Trey) Kizer and Johanna (Hanna) Houston.

**JW BIBLE STUDY** — No Joyful Women's Bible Study on Tuesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>.

**CHURCH CHATS** — Sign up for an evening discussion with Pastor Tim in a small group living room atmosphere on the ramifications of current ELCA Decisions. The signup sheet is in the Narthex. More dates will be added if you can't make any of those listed. For questions contact Kathy Gann or Pastor Tim.

**2010 LENTEN FUNDS** — will be used to support the furnishing of 3 Boys bedrooms and 3 Girls bedrooms at the Parks Youth Ranch, a shelter for homeless youth in Fort Bend County. For more info, contact Laura Cabato.

**"WALK ACROSS THE ROOM"** — What if you knew that by taking ten steps across a room and saying hello could impact another person for his or her eternity? Would you walk? We continue this Sunday evenings 6-7:30p with your brothers and sisters of Joy as together, we learn to simply "Walk Across the Room"!

**EASTER LILIES** — Purchase your Easter lily in honor/memorial of a loved one to brighten our sanctuary during Easter Services! Cost is \$9.00. Checks are to be deposited in the envelope at the time of sign up. Signup sheet is in the Narthex. Deadline is March 28<sup>th</sup>.

**MIDWEEK LENTEN TEACHING/VESPERS AND SOUP SUPPERS** — Soup Supper is every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. before Lenten Worship. A signup sheet is now in the Narthex to bring your special and unique contribution to these fellowship meals. Along with the signup sheet are instructions for bringing soup or dessert. Worship begins at 7:30 p.m.

**ANNUAL CROP WALK** — at George Ranch is on April 17<sup>th</sup>! Be sure to mark your calendars. A signup sheet is in the Narthex. Sponsor sheets will be available soon. For questions contact Laura Cabato or Shirley Morris.

**LUTHERHILL GOLF TOURNAMENT** — 9<sup>TH</sup> Annual Golf sponsored by Thrivent is on Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1:30 p.m. Registration at 12:30. Entry fee is \$110. Brochures are available on the table in the Narthex.

**SPECIAL JOYFUL WOMEN EVENT** — Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 9-11 a.m. join us for Brunch and Dramatic presentation. You don't want to miss this one. Kathy Behrman will be our guest to present a dramatization to take us on a journey through the Bible. This is an event for ALL ages so plan to bring your children and invite your friends. Sign up on the Joyful Women bulletin board.

**GOOD NEIGHBOR PROGRAM** — Did you know that a percentage of your Randall's bill can go to Joy? Designate Joy as your charity. For info or PDF form, go to [www.randalls.com/IFL/Grocery/Good-Neighbor](http://www.randalls.com/IFL/Grocery/Good-Neighbor). There are also forms in the Narthex.

**VIA DE CRISTO** — "The Way of Christ" Retreat. A co-ed retreat for healthy Christians looking for enrichment June 10-13<sup>th</sup>. Contact Pastor Kastner or the church office for more details.

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** — Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Study is on the *Book of Esther*. All men are invited! Contact Mike Meyer for additional information. Join us!

**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!

**THRIVENT FINANCIAL REPRESENTATIVE(S) NEEDED** — Join the Thrivent Financial team & do more than work, Work with Purpose. Contact Jerrod Summers at 281-773-5403 or visit [www.thrivent.com/careers](http://www.thrivent.com/careers) for more info.

**BIRTHDAYS** — 3/15 Kristen Canterbury; 3/20 Peyton Loewe

## 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; Bp. Bazellel Hernandez

### Serving Jesus This Sunday

	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
<b>Altar Flowers</b>	Celebration of Khrystynne Faucett's Birthday	
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Morris/Rieders/Willis	
<b>Ushers</b>	D. & B. Marvin	M. Budd & K. Curry
<b>Acolyte</b>	Cory Leith	Timmy Hamner
<b>Liturgist</b>	Bill Bray	Chuck Canterbury
<b>Lector</b>	Alan Lowe	Becky Ohm
<b>Cantor</b>	Bill Bray	
<b>Child Sermon</b>	Jerry Daniels	Doris Goates
<b>Communion</b>	B. Christ/J. Hopkins/D. Bray	
<b>Audio</b>	B. Horstman	K. Loewe
<b>Video</b>	B. Horstman	J. Goates
<b>Counters</b>	Kathy Gann/Bob Jahn	

### Serving Jesus Next Sunday

	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
<b>Altar Flowers</b>	Erica Strode & Nathan Nigrelli's Wedding on 3/19	
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Morris/Rieders/Willis	
<b>Ushers</b>	Mike & Kathy Gann	P. Curry & S. Morris
<b>Acolyte</b>	Mitchell Hong	Rhianna Schwartz
<b>Liturgist</b>	Darin Mielke	John Garrou
<b>Lector</b>	Jerry Daniels	Mike Ronning
<b>Cantor</b>	Darin Mielke	
<b>Child Sermon</b>	June Tesch	Tracy Posey
<b>Communion</b>	H. Peska/K. Strode/L. Mikeska	
<b>Audio</b>	B. Horstman	Amy Cabato
<b>Video</b>	B. Horstman	J. Goates
<b>Counters</b>	Melody Mielke/Fred Kunzler	

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**E-MAIL** — Pastor Tim: [pastor@joyrichmond.org](mailto:pastor@joyrichmond.org) Terri Clark: [office@joyrichmond.org](mailto:office@joyrichmond.org)

# Our Daily Joy!

**ON THE VINE ... GROWING: Conversations and Controversies — Week of March 14, 2010**

**Monday, March 15**

**Luke 13**

Jesus teaches about entering the kingdom (22-28). How does Jesus decide who will make it and who won't? If God wants all kinds of people to know him, why isn't the door wider (29)? Who are the ones outside (11:23, 11:37-53, 12:9, 12:21, 12:45-46, 13:1)? Why isn't eating and drinking with Jesus enough? Do you think only a few, or many, or all will be saved? Why? Do you know whether you are inside or outside the kingdom? How do you get in (11:9, 12:31-32)? Recommit your life to Jesus Christ.

**Tuesday, March 16**

**Luke 14**

Jesus advises people not to rush in for the best seats (7-14); he wants us to look for a place to serve. How does Jesus' view of honor differ from the view held by others? What does this teach you about kingdom values versus social values, and their application in our lives? How does status and culture get in the way of loving Jesus? In 25-34, we are reminded about the cost of being a disciple. The word "hate" here does not refer to mental or emotional dislike of family members or of one's own life, but rather a rejection of anything or anyone blocking our absolute commitment to Christ (see Matthew 10:21, 10:34-39). How do each of the three parables in this passage relate to the necessity of giving our primary love and loyalty to Jesus? When did you realize that following Jesus would be costly? Do you ever wonder if it's worth it? What keeps you going? Pray about struggles in your life, and leave them at the foot of the cross.

**Wednesday, March 17**

**Luke 15**

This chapter brings together three great parables revealing the depth of God's love and the extent he goes to in finding his own. God loves his children, right down to the last one. He shows us, through Jesus, how far he will go in seeking his misplaced children. What is Jesus' point with the parable of the lost son (11-31)? What does this parable teach about sin, repentance, and God's love? What does Jesus want to teach the Pharisees in 25-31? Why doesn't Jesus tell us how the older brother responded to his father's plea? Which brother are you like? Have you ever been resentful of God's lavishness to "less deserving" people? Why? When have you experienced God being like this father? Pray that God would allow you a heart that not only forgives, but also a heart that encourages and supports.

**Thursday, March 18**

**Luke 16**

Luke 16:13 reminds us that we cannot serve God and money. It should be used to establish relationships with people and to help others, not to accumulate things! How do you view your money: "it's mine, keep your hands off;" or, "it's my creditors;" or, "it's God's and I just manage it?" How do you deal with an "it's mine" mind in an "it's God's" commitment to Christ? The Pharisees considered wealth to be proof of righteousness (19-31). How do the lives of the rich man and Lazarus compare on earth (19-21)? After death (22-24)? From this story (30-31), what is the determining factor for entering heaven? Why is it so hard for us to make choices that God wants us to make? Does your life reflect the rich man or Lazarus? How do you move closer to God's model? Our attitude toward God, revealed in the actions of this life, determines our condition in the life to come. Pray for a heart that serves God, not money.

**Friday, March 19**

**Luke 17**

Focus on verses 20-37. In response to the Pharisees, what does Jesus say about the kingdom? Does he view the kingdom within people's spirits? How does it differ from an earthly kingdom? What did Jesus mean when he said, "one of these days of the Son of Man"? How will those days be like those of Noah and Lot? As you and I live in the kingdom, waiting for the Son of Man to come, what do you see here that you should apply to 32-33? Pray that God will keep you ready and growing in your journey of faith.

**Saturday, March 20**

**Luke 18**

Many Roman judges accepted bribes. What was the widow's bribe, or weapon (1-8)? What was the point in this parable? In your prayer life, are you more likely to give up or hang tough? Why? In 9-14, we compare the prayers of the Pharisee and the tax collector. In today's terms, who would be the Pharisee? The tax collector? How do both parables demonstrate faith? What do they teach about God? Jesus warns us about hypocrisy in prayer (see Matthew 6:5-8). Pride keeps prayer from achieving its purpose, while humility leads to open communication with God. God counts humble confession as righteousness. Have you been like the Pharisee? The tax collector? What accounts for the difference? Jesus welcomed the children because they have the kind of faith and trust needed to enter the kingdom of God (15-17; see also Matthew 19:13-15). Are you coming to Jesus like a child filled with faith and trust, or are you still trying to earn the kingdom? Pray Psalm 51:17.

**Sunday, March 21**

**Psalms 101**

This psalm is a prayer for help in living a holy life. In order to live a life of integrity, both our efforts and God's help are necessary. Verse 2 talks about needing God's help in our homes. Why might this be true? How do you feel about the standard of ethics in our government? Where do your ethics need a boost? In the Living Bible, verse 6 says, "I will make the godly of the land my heroes." How are David's heroes in this psalm different from the heroes of our culture today? This psalm is about a godly leader, but we are all leaders in some arena. What makes an effective leader? What did Jesus say about leadership in Luke 22:24-26? Read this psalm as if it were your creed, and ask God to help you apply it to your daily life.