

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 March 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** — LENT 2
— Daylight Savings Begins
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a
— Christian Education: 9:15a
— First Communion Class: noon
- Monday**
— La Cocina: 6:30p
— Church Council: 7:30p
— Joyful Tooters: 7p
— Joy Choir: 7:30p
- Tuesday**
— JW Bible Study: 10a & 7p
— Confirmation: 6p
- Wednesday**
— Soup Supper: 6:30p
— Lenten Worship: 7:30p
- Thursday**
— Men's Bible Study: 7p
— Worship Team: 7:30p
- Next Sunday** — LENT 3
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a
— Christian Education: 9:15a
— First Communion Class: noon

—Live, Love & Serve with Joy!

Ministry Opportunities

CALLING ALL MUSICIANS/VOCALISTS! — We are seeking volunteers to share your talents for 3-5 minutes prior to Midweek Lenten services. Sign up in the Narthex.

MID WEEK LENTEN WORSHIP — Wednesdays thru April 1st at 7:30 p.m. with a Soup Supper served at 6:30. A sign up sheet is now in the Narthex to bring your special and unique contribution to these fellowship meals. Along with the sign up sheet are instructions for bringing soup. Please be sure to take a copy of the instructions when you sign up!

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. Sign up sheet is in the Narthex. Deadline is April 5th.

FAMILY LENTEN DEVOTIONALS — We will have a combo pack to continue practicing our 4 keys of faith foundation. Devotions, Rituals & Traditions, Caring Conversations & Family Service. The packets include Watch & Wait daily Lenten devotions, companion window calendar and their very own Watch & Wait Lenten Mobile. Your child should have received theirs during Sunday school. Extras are available in the Narthex for family & friends. FDIC encourages the use of these tools to help prepare us to "watch & wait" for Jesus as we anticipate Easter Sunday.

JR HIGH GARAGE SALE/CARWASH/BBQ — Jr. High is now collecting garage sale items for their fundraiser on May 2nd. If you have items you would like to donate, leave them in the Jr. High classroom. Watch the toolkit and newsletter for more info about this fun event!

JOYLIFE WORKDAY — Are you interested in working on the bulletin boards in the hallway? On Saturday, March 21st there will be a planning/work crew at 9 a.m. Join the crew if you have ideas or would like to help!

RESCHEDULED FDIC MEETING — Monday, March 23rd at 6:30 p.m.

NORDIC CHOIR TO PRESENT CONCERT — the flagship choral ensemble of Luther College, Decarah, Iowa will appear in concert on Tues, March 24th at 7:30 p.m. at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 18220 Upper Bay Road in Houston (2 blocks from Space Center). Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$7 for children. Call 1-800-4LUTHER or visit www.luthertickets.com for tickets.

RUTH BIBLE STUDY — Thurs. March 26th at 7 p.m. currently studying the Book of Esther. We will complete our final study by watching "One Night with the King" and compare Hollywood to the Word. All are welcome!

THE ANNUAL "CROP WALK" — at the George Ranch is scheduled for **Sat. March 28th** at 8 a.m. Sign up to walk or contribute to a walker! The walk is 3-miles, enjoy a peaceful walk with your family or friends and help feed the hungry! Sign up & pledge envelopes will be available in the Narthex.

HOP ON THE BUS 2009! — Join us Aug. 3-7th when we will be traveling to Cristo Rey for Vacation Bible School! We would like to start planning our trip on Sunday, March 29th after church. If you are interested in joining us, sign up now in the Narthex or join us on March 29th for more info. Contact Paula Curry with any questions.

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.

ELCA SOCIAL STATEMENT & RECOMMENDATIONS ON SEXUALITY IS ONLINE — available at www.elca.org by clicking on the appropriate link.

BIRTHDAYS — 3/10 Shannon Lieke; 3/12 Christine McCarter; 3/13 Bev Marvin & David Willis

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 Erin Light & Justin Felkers Wedding	
Altar Guild	K. McCarter/D. Pitman/C. & A. Rieder/M. Willis	
Ushers	Cari & Courtney White	Dan & Kathy Strode
Acolyte	Ariel Landinger	Kristen Curry
Liturgist	Bill Bray	Bob Jahn
Lector	Jill Kunzler	Irene Carleton
Cantor	Bill Bray	
Child Sermon	Laura Parnell	Tracy Posey
Communion	Paula Curry/Shirley Morris/Larry Mikeska	
Audio	B. & A. Walquist	James Goates
Counters	Fred Kunzler/Doris Signell	

Serving Jesus Next Sunday

	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Altar Flowers	Celebration of Shannon Lieke's Birthday	
Altar Guild	K. McCarter/D. Pitman/C. & A. Rieder/M. Willis	
Ushers	Al & Candace Rieder	Lisa & Amanda Ronning
Acolyte	Chance Morrison	Taylor Currie
Liturgist	Dan Strode	John Garrou
Lector	Alan Lowe	Rose Cabato
Cantor	Dan Strode	
Child Sermon	Courtney White	Jessica Carleton
Communion	Jim & Pam Hill/Kathy Strode	
Audio	Beth Horstman	Aspen Timberlake
Counters	Allen Schoppe/Tammy Soward	

CONGREGATIONAL WEBSITE — www.joyrichmond.org

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

Our Daily Joy!

Taking Root: Walking Wet...Bread of Life – Week of March 8, 2009

Monday, March 9

A Golden Thread Begins to Unfold

Last week we talked about covenants and observed that it is the Lord who takes the initiative and comes to people with pledges of love and faithfulness. We noted that New Testament can also be translated New Covenant. We pondered God's covenant with all creation (*Genesis 9*) and also God's covenant with Abraham. Review God's promises to Abram (Abraham) in Genesis 12:1-3 (*notice the scope of 12:3b*); 15:4-6, 13-18; and 17:12-13, 19. Remember these promises as we move from God's words to Abraham (*15:13-14*) to watching their fulfillment begin to unfold (*Exodus 2:23-3:15*). Do you trust God's promises, even when you haven't yet seen their fulfillment? Pray.

Tuesday, March 10

Without the Shedding of Blood...

Look at Genesis 3:21; with sin came the need for clothing, and it is God who supplies the covering, and this requires the death of an animal. This is the first of many pictures that look ahead to the sacrifice of Jesus, the Lamb of God. Notice that it is God who provides the sacrifice as you read Genesis 22:8, 13-18 (*note the renewal of the covenant*); 2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 9:15, 22, 26b-28; 10:5-18; and 1 Peter 1:18-21. Did you observe a relationship between the shedding of blood/sacrifice and covenant? Unfortunately, we cannot explore these concepts in depth, but do hold the thoughts in your heart and mind as you read Luke 22:7-20. How much does God hate sin yet love sinners? Pray.

Wednesday, March 11

A Substitute

God provided the ram as a substitute for Abraham's son Isaac (*Genesis 22*); the ram died, and Isaac lived. Think about this idea of a substitute as you read Exodus 12:1-28; Matthew 26:17-19, 26-29; 1 Corinthians 5:7; 11:23-26; and 1 Peter 2:24; 3:18a. How do these thoughts relate to Romans 3:23; 6:23; and Hebrews 9:22? We are delivered from death by means of a sacrifice, a substitute, who dies in our place. At the time of the first Passover, the firstborn of the Israelites were spared from physical death; Jesus, the Lamb of God (*John 1:29*), died that we might live eternally. Jesus, the perfect, spotless Lamb of God, died in our place. Use Revelation 5:9-14 to guide your worship.

Thursday, March 12

Bondage, Freedom, and the Command to Remember

At the center of salvation history is Jesus' death on the cross. Pause, meditate on this, and pray as you consider how the cross reveals the tender, redemptive love of God for sinners. Now look back to the first Passover and the deliverance from slavery/bondage that followed it; read Exodus 12:43-51; 13:3-10. And the LORD told them to remember! Now read Luke 22:7-20; Jesus is celebrating the Passover with his disciples. How does he reveal to them that HE is the Passover Lamb? Notice that he tells them to remember! From what bondage are we freed (*Romans 6:23; 1 Corinthians 15:56-57*)? Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; remember Jesus' sacrifice, and pray.

Friday, March 13

The Perfect Sacrifice

Jesus died during the Passover Festival. The Passover meal Jesus ate with his disciples was his last meal before his resurrection (*Matthew 26:17-29*). Imagine the disciples' joy and amazement as they began to unravel the truths embraced in the meal and given fulfillment in Jesus' death and resurrection. Savor the images in Exodus 12:26-27; Psalm 22; Isaiah 53; and John 1:29, 36; God gave people pictures of redemption long before Jesus' death on the cross. Stand amazed with those who began to see clearly in Luke 24:13-35; consider 1 Corinthians 5:7b and 1 Peter 1:18-21. Gaze at the Cross; behold the Lamb of God; see the face of Love. How will you respond? Worship Jesus.

Saturday, March 14

Remember: Jesus Is the Bread of Life

Read Exodus 13:3-10, noticing both the importance of the unleavened bread in the Passover meal and the admonition to remember. Now look at Deuteronomy 6:4-12 and notice not only the call to remember but also the command to teach children about the LORD. How are we to respond to the LORD (*6:5*)? Remember the manna God provided during the wilderness wanderings; what does it teach us (*Deuteronomy 8:3*)? Now read John 6:26-40; 48-51, 53-58. Jesus is the true manna, the bread of life; embrace Jesus' life-giving sacrifice. Meditate on John 6:33-35, 51 and pray.

Sunday, March 15

Come to the Table

Our theme texts picture table scenes; they are invitations to come to the table where the Lord meets us with grace, love, and forgiveness. Consider the Lord's invitation as you read Exodus 13:3-10; Psalm 23:5-6; 36:7-9; Song of Songs 2:4; Matthew 26:26-30; Luke 13:29; 14:15-23; John 6:35; and Revelation 3:20; 19:9; 22:17. We can come to the table because of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Did you hear not only the invitation but Jesus' longing for us to come? This is the most precious invitation you will ever receive. Say yes to Jesus. Run to him. Pray.