

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 April 5, 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; **Jeni Morrison** — 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** — **PASSION SUNDAY**
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a
— Christian Education: 9:15a
— First Communion Class: noon
- Monday** — **FDIC Meeting: 6:30p**
— Joyful Tooters: 7p
— Joy Choir: 7:30p
- Tuesday** — **JW Bible Study: 10a & 7p**
- Wednesday** — **Confirmation: 6p**
- Thursday** — **MAUNDY THURSDAY**
— Worship & First Communion 7:30p
- Friday** — **GOOD FRIDAY**
— Stations of the Cross: 7:30p
- Saturday** — **HOLY SATURDAY**
— The Easter Vigil: 7:30p
- Next Sunday** — **EASTER SUNDAY**
— Worship: 8:00a; 9:15a & 10:30a

—Live, Love & Serve with Joy!

Ministry Opportunities

PLAN AHEAD!! — *Holy week worship schedule:*

Maundy Thursday: 7:30 p.m.

First communion for our young people

Good Friday: 7:30 p.m.

Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday: 7:30 p.m.

The Easter Vigil & Baptismal Renewal

Easter: 8:00a - 9:15a - 10:30a

Three Worship Celebrations

Joy Sunday School Celebration

FDIC MEETING — Monday, April 6th at 6:30 p.m.

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 **today**.

EASTER BREAKFAST — Sr. High will once again serve breakfast on Easter Sunday beginning at 8:00 a.m.

ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT — for our little ones on Easter morning from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. Bring your baskets and come ready to hunt!

GRADUATING SENIORS! — We would like to honor you in the May newsletter. This would include a picture and a write up! A form has been sent by email. Please have photos and info to the office by April 15th. We will have our Baccalaureate celebration in May during worship service. Watch for the date! If you have questions contact Tracy Posey.

SR & JR HIGH RETREAT WEEKEND — "Our Gifts for His Glory" retreat at T-Bar-M Sports Camp in New Braunfels. April 17-19. Cost is \$100. To register go to www.regonline/giftsforglory. Online registration only.

HIP HOP IKE BENEFIT CONCERT — featuring AGAPE on Sunday, April 19th at 6 p.m. at Holy Comforter Lutheran Church. Free will offering to benefit Lutheran Disaster Response Fund.

LUTHERHILL ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT — on Friday, April 24th. If you golf or are willing to join us, save the date! We are hoping to put a couple of teams together from Joy. Pastor Tim & Brett Carleton are organizing this adventure to support Camp Lutherhill.

FORT BEND FAMILY PROMISE — 5th Annual Golf Tourney on Wed., April 22nd 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Greatwood Golf Club, Sugar Land. Sign up on line at fortbendfamilypromise.org. Proceeds help FBFP & over 450 community volunteers provide shelter, food & caring support to homeless families with children who are earnestly striving to become self-sufficient.

BLESSING OF THE KEYS — This year's milestone celebration will include a discussion meeting on Saturday, April 25th from 9-11 a.m. for parents & new drivers. On April 26th at worship services new drivers will receive a book, keychain and a Parental and Congregational blessing! Sign up now in the Narthex.

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.

JOYFUL WOMEN POTLUCK & MOVIE — on Tuesday, April 28th at 10 a.m. at Martha Willis' home. All women of Joy and guests are invited. We will watch the DVD "How Great Is Our God". Directions will be on JW Bulletin Board.

JR/SR HIGH GARAGE SALE/CARWASH/BBQ — 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!

HOP ON THE BUS 2009! — Join us Aug. 3-7th when we will be traveling to Cristo Rey! If you are interested, sign up in the Narthex for more info. Contact Paula.

BIRTHDAYS — 4/2 Joshua John; 4/5 Cliff Halvorsen & Hazel Peska; 4/7 Julia Gaas & Melody Mielke; 4/8 Doug Garrison; 4/9 Marie Thorseth

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	Schoppe's 30 th Anniversary
Altar Guild	S.Barr/C.Bolner/R.Divin/M.Mikeska/M.Peveto/P.Shipp	
Ushers	Mike & Kathy Gann	Jim & Pam Hill
Acolyte	Kelsey White	Mitchell Hong
Liturgist	Ashley Stutes	Corinne Light
Lector	June Tesch	Gregg Carleton
Cantor	Fred Kunzler	
Child Sermon		
Communion	Marilyn Blaschke/Tracy Posey/Joyce Hopkins	
Audio	Beth Horstman	Lisa Ronning
Counters	Allen Schoppe/Bill Peska	

Serving Jesus Next Sunday

	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>9:15 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Altar Flowers	EASTER LILIES		
Altar Guild	S.Barr/C.Bolner/R.Divin/M.Mikeska/M.Peveto/P.Shipp		
Ushers	Horstman/Lowe		C & K Canterbury
Acolyte	C.Morrison	E. Garcia	M. Budd
Liturgist	Bill Bray	Dan Strode	Dan Strode
Lector	Emily Sattler	Mike Ronning	Mike Ronning
Cantor	Bill Bray	Dan Strode	
Child Sermon	No Children's Sermon		
Communion		M&J Ronning	Curry/Morris/ Hamner
Audio	C. White	B. Horstman	J. Goates
Counters	Kim Hodenfield/Bill Peska		

CONGREGATIONAL WEBSITE — www.joyrichmond.org

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

Our Daily Joy!

Taking Root: Digging in the Dirt...Kneeling on Holy Ground — Week of April 5, 2009

Monday, April 6

Hosanna!

The crowd shouted, "Hosanna!" hailing Jesus as their king (*Matthew 21:1-11*), but did they really understand? The Jerusalem crowds, gathering for the Passover Festival, longed for a triumphant, temporal king, but Jesus came into the city riding on a donkey. What do we learn about the meaning of this from Zechariah 9:9 and Philippians 2:5-11? Our theme is "kneeling on holy ground." Do you long to kneel on holy ground, see more of Jesus' glory, and be showered with his grace? This week, read, in one or in all four Gospels, about the events from Palm Sunday to Easter: Matthew 21-28; Mark 11-16; Luke 19:28-24:53; and John 12:12-21:25. Worship Jesus, our Lord and King.

Tuesday, April 7

Preparing Our Hearts

Continue with your Holy Week reading, praying the Lord will prepare your heart to enthrone him. Meditate on John 12:12-36; 13:1-17; and Philippians 2:5-11. Jesus, in humility, came as a servant and as an offering (*John 1:29*). Paul, in Philippians 2:5, reminds us, not of our rights, but of our call. Can we really know Jesus if we are filled with ourselves? Kneel (if you are able); ask the Spirit to help you see yourself clearly; confess your sins; tell Jesus your desire is to love him and to love and serve others, not for your glory but for his. Memorize Galatians 2:20.

Wednesday, April 8

Why the Cross?

We wear cross jewelry, but do we ponder what the cross means? Do we reverently consider what our sin cost Jesus? We serve a holy God who demands holiness, but we are sinners. Read Genesis 2:16-17; Leviticus 17:11; Matthew 26:26-28; John 1:29; Romans 3:23-25a; 5:8,21; 6:22-23; 2 Corinthians 5:21; and 1 John 4:10. It wasn't the Roman authorities or Jewish leaders who sent Jesus to the cross. It was God the Father, who, in love, offered to pay the price for our sin with the blood of Jesus, the eternal Son. Meditate on Hebrews 9:22; 10:5-14 and 1 Peter 1:18-20. Pray.

Thursday, April 9

Jesus' Final Hours with His Disciples

Before Jesus' anguished prayers in Gethsemane, he spent precious time with his disciples in what we now call The Upper Room. Read Luke 22:7-20. John shares other details about Jesus' final hours with his disciples before his arrest; he includes Jesus' prayer for his disciples and for us. Stand or kneel as you read John 17:1-26 aloud, but before you begin reading, pray the Spirit will quicken your heart with the truth that you are, indeed, in Jesus' presence on holy ground. After reading, spend time silently pondering what the Spirit is saying to you. Pray.

Friday, April 10

Permission to Kneel on Holy Ground

Read the crucifixion account in one or more of the Gospels. Now read Exodus 3:1-6 and Isaiah 6:1-7. Moses and Isaiah reacted with fear in God's holy presence. The Hebrew Scriptures remind us that no one but the high priest could enter the Holy of Holies, the physical representation of God's presence in the tabernacle or temple, and then only once a year and with blood (*Leviticus 16:1-3,29-30*). The curtain kept sinful people from the manifest presence of their holy God. Now read Matthew 27:50-51a; at the moment of Jesus' death, the curtain in the temple was rent. The writer of Hebrews explains what this means. Stand in awe as you read Hebrews 7:23-27; 9:1-15; and 10:19-23. Read Hebrews 10:19-23 again, this time aloud. We are invited to dwell on holy ground, in God's presence. Pray!

Saturday, April 11

Prophecy Fulfilled

As you've read our texts these past days, have you repeatedly heard the message that prophecy was being fulfilled? [*See John 13:18; 15:25; 17:12-13; 18:9,32; 19:24,28,36-37...*] The Sabbath, the day between Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection, was a day of waiting. Imagine the anguish of Jesus' followers who thought all hope was lost. But then remember God's faithfulness to them and to us. Ponder 2 Corinthians 1:20 and 2 Peter 1:16-21. Meditate on Psalm 22 and Isaiah 52:13-53:12. Bask in the wonder and glory of God's plan for salvation. Read Romans 8:24-25; pray.

Sunday, April 12

Resurrection Day!

Do we sometimes forget that God's Word is truth and God's promises are sure? Jesus had told his followers that he would die and rise again (*Matthew 17:9,22-23; 26:2,31-32; Mark 8:31-32a...*) On the Passover Sabbath, Jesus' followers grieved, as without hope. Then came Easter! As you read Luke 24:1-49, watch how Jesus moves his followers from fear and despair to hope, faith, and joy. Pray that your heart will also respond to the resurrection with faith, hope, and joy and that your thankfulness will bring you to your knees in Jesus' presence, which is, indeed, holy ground. Allow Isaac Watts' lyrics to guide your prayer and praise: "Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all." Worship the Risen Lord, and share the joy of Jesus' resurrection with others. He has risen, indeed!