

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 May 17, 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

Bill Barr — Property; **Vacant** — 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 — **EASTER 6**
— **Choir Cantata - Both Services**
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a
— Christian Education: 9:15a

Monday — Joy Choir: 7p

Tuesday — JW Visit to Co-Cathedral: 9a

Thursday — **Ascension of Our Lord**
— Men's Bible Study: 7p
— PB@J: 7:30p

Next Sunday — **EASTER 7**
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a
— Christian Education: 9:15a

—Live, Love & Serve with Joy!

Ministry Opportunities

JOY CHOIR CANTATA — Covenant of Grace - A Cantata for Easter will be performed at both worship services today.

THANK YOU — to Pr. Dick Kastner for presiding at worship today.

BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG — We will once again be supporting the Pregnancy Resource Center by collecting money between Mother's Day and Father's Day. Baby bottles will be available in the Narthex for you to pick up and fill between those dates.

JW TOUR OF THE NEW CO-CATHEDRAL — Join us on Tuesday, May 19th for a guided tour of the new Co-cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Downtown Houston. The tour begins at 10 a.m. we will carpool from Joy at 9 a.m. A signup sheet is posted on the JW Bulletin Board. For more info contact June Tesch or Denyse Bray. Babysitting will be provided at Joy.

RUTH BIBLE STUDY — Wed. May 20th at 7:00 p.m. We will be studying two sessions about Esther. All women are welcome!

MEALS FOR THE HOMELESS — Meals are needed for Fort Bend Family Promise from May 24th thru 27th. A signup sheet is in the Narthex. Monetary donations are also accepted and appreciated if you are unable to prepare a meal. For more info contact Shirley Morris or Laura Cabato.

JR HIGH END OF YEAR POOL PARTY! — Welcome in the new 6th graders and say goodbye to 8th graders! On Sunday, May 31st 4-8 p.m. at Mary & Steve Budd's house. Bring your swim suits. Will have pizza & ice cream with all the toppings. Please RSVP to Paula Curry as soon as possible.

YOUTH HUT KEY — has not been returned to its hook

in the key box! Please return - thanks!

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL — We have started plans for Summer Sunday School! This summer the theme will be Faith through the arts. We are looking for nurturing adults that are willing to spend 45 minutes to an hour with the kids during Sunday school. We invite and encourage anyone interested to sign up for Sunday in June or August. Be on the lookout for signup sheets that will be posted soon. Any questions, contact Tracy Posey.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER APPRECIATION — We will honor our Sunday school teachers on Sun., June 7th. Please plan on attending.

SAVE THE DATE! — for Lutheran Social Services Night with the Astros! This year's event is scheduled for Saturday, July 23rd at 6:05 p.m. The Astros will be playing the New York Mets. This year the Lutheran Chorale will be singing the National Anthem. Watch the Narthex for a signup sheet!

CAMP JOY — Camp Joy preparations have begun and sign up forms have been mailed out in the May Newsletter. Camp will take place July 13th thru July 17th from 3 to 8 p.m. Mini-camp for 2-4 year olds begins at 5:15-8 p.m. Be sure to get your registration in soon, space is limited to 40 campers and 12 mini-campers.

PLAN AHEAD — 20th Annual Tomorrow's Child Golf Benefit for the Krause Children's Center — June 15th at Pine Forest Country Club.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL — opportunity for Adults & Jr/Sr High Youth! On June 14, 21, & 28 we will explore the topic of Service/Servant Life/Servanthood. Corinne Light will facilitate this exploration and would appreciate any comments, ideas, resources that you may be willing to share. We will meet promptly at 9:15 in the Gathering Place. If you are interested in this topic through Bible Study, discussion and lively conversation, please sign up on the signup sheet which should make an appearance soon!

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY — Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. The Men's group will take a summer break beginning in June and resume studies in September.

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 Curry.

BIRTHDAYS — 5/17 Chance Morrison; 5/18 Stefanie Myers; 5/19 Lily Biehl; 5/21 Erin Blaschke, Rose Cabato, Richard Lowe & Peggy McStravick; 5/22 Kaia Senn

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 Today

	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Altar Flowers	In Celebration of Mike Wohlert's Birthday	
Altar Guild	D. Bray/K. & W. Faucett/B.Marvin/B.McDow	
Ushers	Jim & Cari White	Mike & Kayla Posey
Acolyte	Ariel Landinger	Trey Timberlake
Liturgist	Dan Strode	Susan Krabbe
Lector	No Lessons due to the Cantata	
Cantor	Dan Strode	
Child Sermon	No Children's message due to the Cantata	
Communion	Kathy Strode/John Garrou/Marilyn Blaschke	
Audio	Courtney White	Aspen Timberlake
Counters	Kathy Gann/Bob Jahn	

Serving Jesus Next Sunday

	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Altar Flowers	In Celebration of Lindsey & Jeff Perry's 1 st Anniv.	
Altar Guild	D. Bray/K. & W. Faucett/B.Marvin/B.McDow	
Ushers	Courtney & Zack White	Greg & Irene Carleton
Acolyte	Kelsey White	Kaylyn McStravick
Liturgist	Cari White	Dan Strode
Lector	Cari White	Parke Wyant
Cantor	Darin Mielke	
Child Sermon	June Tesch	Shena Timberlake
Communion	Larry Mikeska/Tracy Posey/Lori Hamner	
Audio	B or A Walquist	Brianne Hodenfield
Counters	Pam Hill/Kim Hodenfield	

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...Organic Matters — Week of May 17, 2009

Monday, May 18

In the Beginning God

Genesis 1:1 begins, "In the beginning God..." and then we read about creation. John 1:1 reads, "*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God*" and then John speaks of creation. The Apostles' Creed begins, "I believe in God..." and the Nicene Creed begins, "We believe in One God..." then both speak of God as Creator. God—God is where we must begin. Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Job 38:1, 4-7; Psalm 90:1-17; and Isaiah 40:28. What do these texts tell us about God, and what do they reveal about us, about humanity? Do we live as if we truly believe that God is preeminent? Spend time worshipping God.

Tuesday, May 19

Eternal God

Read Psalm 90, noticing God's eternal nature. Our temporal lives are fleeting; we live in a finite world, and our understanding is limited by our nature, but God is eternal. Yet, wonder of wonders, our eternal God loves us and invites us to live in relationship with God forever. Ponder John 3:16. What is the promise? Savor the truths recorded in John 11:25-26; 17:3-5; Romans 11:33-36; Hebrews 1:8,10-12; Jude 24-25; and Revelation 1:8; 5:13. Spend extra moments meditating on one or more of these passages. Humbly worship our eternal God.

Wednesday, May 20

Our Dwelling Place

Psalm 90:1 (*NIV; NRSV*) speaks of the Lord as "*our dwelling place.*" What does this mean to you? Deuteronomy 33:27a (*RSV*) reads, "*The eternal God is your dwelling place, and underneath are the everlasting arms.*" Ponder Jesus' words in John 15:4-5 and Paul's in 2 Corinthians 5:1-8. Are there now and yet to come aspects to the promise that the eternal God is our dwelling place/our home? Use Isaac Watts' lyrics to form your prayer: "*O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the storm blast, and our eternal home.*"

Thursday, May 21

I Believe in God, the Father Almighty

Psalm 90:7-11 speaks of God's wrath and judgment on sin, and we understand that God cannot be just and yet ignore sin. Bask in the wonder of how God is able to embrace us as God's own in spite of our sinful nature; read Isaiah 53:4-6; John 1:29; Romans 3:21-26; 5:8; 6:22-23; 2 Corinthians 5:21; and Hebrews 9:27-28. And because of this, we are invited to approach God as Father. Notice the first words of the Apostles' Creed: "I believe in God, the Father almighty." Reflect on the prayer Jesus taught his disciples; how does it begin (*Matthew 6:9*)? Savor the closeness with our Father God expressed in Romans 8:15-17 and Galatians 4:4-7. Pray to our almighty Father.

Friday, May 22

Unfailing Love

Glance again at Days 3 and 4; we talked about God as Father and as our dwelling place and home. Do you believe this and live as if you do? Is our Father God trustworthy? Beth Moore speaks about the difference between believing in God and believing God (*Believing God, 2002 LifeWay Press*). Read James 2:19. Do you believe God; do you believe God's promises are true; do you believe that God is love? With the pictures of God as Father and dwelling place in your heart and mind, meditate on Psalm 90:1-2,14 and 1 John 4:9-10,16. Pray as you reflect on Augustine's words: "Thou hast made us for Thyself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in Thee."

Saturday, May 23

Teach Us to Number Our Days

We have spoken of God as almighty, eternal Creator, as Father, and as our dwelling place. In light of this, how should we live? Psalm 90 calls us to intentional, relational living; read 90:1-2,12-17. Did you notice references both to God's eternal, transcendent nature and also to God's compassion and love—God's intimate relationship with us? Do you pray you will have eyes of faith to see God's activity in the world and in your life (*90:16*)? Are you able to rejoice in the Lord, even when life is difficult (*90:14-15*)? Does the brevity of life (*90:5-6*) encourage you to live your life in the light of eternity? Read Matthew 10:38-39; John 16:33; and 2 Corinthians 4:16-18. Pray.

Sunday, May 24

Created, Redeemed, Called, Sent

Have you heard the expression "twice owned" in reference to God's right to be Lord of your life? God created and redeemed us, and our lives belong to God. Ponder your relationship with God as you read Psalm 90:17; Isaiah 43:7; Matthew 5:16; Ephesians 2:8-10; 4:1-6; and 1 Peter 2:9-10. Are you living as a called and redeemed child of God, who was bought with the precious blood of Jesus? Is your greatest delight to bring glory to God's holy name? In Matthew 28:18-20, Jesus tells us to take the Gospel to the world. In John 21:15-17, Jesus speaks to Peter, and to all of us, about how we best express our love for him and share him with others. Worship your Savior and Lord.