

JOY to the World this Week

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

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

POWeR SuRGe TAKE HOME TOOLS for August 16, 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; **Vacant** — 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 — **PENTECOST 11**
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a
— Summer Sunday School: 9:15a
— Christian Education: 9:15a

Mon-Sun
Monday — **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**
— La Cocina: 6:30p
— Joy Choir: 7p
— GIJ: 7p
— Church Council: 7:30p

Wednesday — Pericope Study: 9:30a
— PB@J: 7p

Next Sunday — **PENTECOST 12**
— Worship: 8:00a & 10:30a
— Summer Sunday School: 9:15a
— Christian Education: 9:15a
— Confirmation Meeting: noon

—Live, Love & Serve with Joy!

Ministry Opportunities

CAMP STORIES — Be sure to share your camp story with us! A box is located in the Narthex for completed forms. Find out the "why" of this project in September's newsletter!

REVEAL ADULT YOUTH WORKER TRAINING — Register online now for the 2nd Annual training available at Camp Lutherhill in LaGrange on Aug. 21-22. Cost is \$95 if you stay at camp and \$75 if staying elsewhere. Register at www.soggyshoes.org.

JW BACK TO SCHOOL BRUNCH — Join us for fellowship, brunch and to view the two DVDs which Don Sattler prepared for the Sisters of Charity of Incarnate Word, Houston on Sat. August 22nd 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Joy. Bring a dish to share. Sign up on the Joyful Women Bulletin Board.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING — Sat. August 22nd at 9 a.m. regarding Joy's involvement in Hearts & Hammers and Habitat for Humanity this year and beyond. Any Adults or Youth interested in participating in either of these programs or both should attend! For info contact Mike Meyer.

CONFIRMATION MEETING — for students and parents will be held next Sunday, Aug 23rd at noon.

WELCA FALL CLUSTER MEETING — Sat. August 29th at St. John Lutheran Church in Angleton. See JW Bulletin board for more info or contact June Tesch if you are interested in attending and carpooling.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER TRAINING — Is scheduled for Monday, Aug 31st 7-9 p.m. Rally Day is scheduled for Sept. 6th!

COLLEGE STUDENT INFO NEEDED! — Please send updated address info for college students for our records.

FALL ADULT GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES — Sign up NOW for **Joy 101**, a basic examination of the Christian Faith from a Lutheran perspective to be offered on Sunday evenings 6-8 p.m., Sept. 13th - Nov. 22nd. **Joy 201** is a deeper and more intensive study of the Scriptures to be offered on Tuesday evenings 7-9 p.m. Sept. 1st - Nov. 24th. Sign up now in the Narthex so that materials can be properly prepared.

FALL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT — Two day event bringing the synod's new vision for evangelism to every area of congregational leadership August 28-29 at Covenant Lutheran Church in west Houston. The Friday events are for professional leaders (clergy, church staff). The Saturday events are for all congregational leaders, especially church council members and those in other key leadership roles. One fee covers the cost for our whole group. Contact Pastor Tim if you can attend.

JW BIBLE STUDY — will begin Tuesday, Sept. 15th 10 a.m.-Noon for nine weeks. Evening classes to be decided based on interest. Studies will continue the Journey with the Israelites, A Study of Joshua. Cost will be \$9 and sign up is required on the JW bulletin board. Contact June Tesch for more info or if you are interested in an evening class. Babysitting is available.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY — will resume on Thursday evening, Sept. 17th at 7:30 p.m. The focus of the study will be the classic work by Dietrich Bonhoeffer "*The Cost of Discipleship*". All men are invited! Contact Mike Meyer for additional information.

"KRISTI'S KREW" — Join friends & family of Kristi Work in the Komen Houston Race for the Cure 5K non-competitive walk on Sat, Oct. 3, 2009. You can walk, watch, or donate! In Memory of our dear friend, we have formed "Kristi's Krew" and would love to have you join our team. For details, go to www.komen-houston.org and look for our team "Kristi's Krew" to get involved, or see Kathy Strode. Thank you!

BIRTHDAYS — 8/16 Ashley Budd, Betty Christ, Rick Godwin, Jay Thorseth; 8/18 Brady Hodenfield; 8/19 Laura Carleton & Timothy Hamner; 8/20 Karen McCarter & Daniel Parnell; 8/21 Marc Biehl & Kim Hodenfield

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 This Sunday

	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Altar Flowers	To the Glory of God	
Altar Guild	D. Bray/K&W Faucett/Bev Marvin/B. McDow/S.Morris	
Ushers	Mike & Kathy Gann	Bill & Hazel Peska
Acolyte	Kelsey White	Trey Timberlake
Liturgist	Cari White	Dan Strode
Lector	Martha Willis	Corinne Light
Cantor	Fred Kunzler	
Child Sermon	Courtney White	Kathy Strode
Communion	Joyce Hopkins/Betty McDow/Kathy Strode	
Audio	Beth Horstman	Aspen Timberlake
Counters	Jim Hill/Bob Jahn	

Serving Jesus Next Sunday

	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Altar Flowers	To the Glory of God	
Altar Guild	D. Bray/K&W Faucett/Bev Marvin/B. McDow/S.Morris	
Ushers	Bob & June Tesch	Jim & Pam Hill
Acolyte	Kristen Curry	Hayden Posey
Liturgist	Dan Strode	John Garrou
Lector	Cari White	Sandy Wohler
Cantor	Dan Strode	
Child Sermon	Jerry Daniels	Mike Ronning
Communion	Marilyn Blaschke/Lori Hamner/Tracy Posey	
Audio	Beth Horstman	
Counters	Tammy Soward/Fred Kunzler	

CONGREGATIONAL WEBSITE — www.joyrichmond.org

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

Our Daily Joy!

Taking Root: Deep Breathing...Forgiveness — Week of August 16, 2009

Monday, August 17

"Most Merciful God"

Pray: "Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen" (*LBW*). Meditate on this, thought by thought. Read Matthew 6:9-12; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15; Colossians 3:12-17; and 1 John 1:5-2:2. Talk to the Lord about what this means for you.

Tuesday, August 18

Deep Breathing

Think of the cross and its vertical and horizontal bars; ponder the cost of our forgiveness and reconciliation with God through the sacrificial death of Jesus; this is the vertical dimension. Now consider that we must reach out to others (horizontal dimension) with the forgiveness and mercy with which God first blesses us. This is not to earn our salvation (*Galatians 2:20-21; Ephesians 2:8-9*), but because we are God's children and must live as such (*Colossians 3:1-4, 12-14*). Think of breathing in as receiving God's love, mercy, forgiveness, and grace, and breathing out as blessing others with the same. We cannot only breathe in; we must also breathe out. Pray.

Wednesday, August 19

Asking for and Receiving Forgiveness

Remember that in the Garden of Eden, it is sin that separates Adam and Eve from fellowship with God; sin also separates us from God. Jesus paid our sin debt, once for all, on the cross, that we might be reconciled to God (*John 1:29; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-21; Hebrews 9:28; 10:10,14,19-23*). The debt has been paid, yet daily confession and forgiveness keep our relationship with the Father open, intimate, and spiritually alive (just as breathing keeps us alive physically). Ponder Psalm 32:1-5; 51:1-12,17; John 13:3-10; and 1 John 1:5-2:2. Pray, "Our Father...forgive us our trespasses/debts" (*Matthew 6:9,12*). Pause and allow the Spirit to awaken your spirit; pray specifically.

Thursday, August 20

Granting Forgiveness

When we studied the commandments, we embraced them as gifts and grace, given because of God's great love. Consider that the prayer petition, "...as we forgive those who trespass against us" (*Matthew 6:12b*) is also gift and grace. Read Jesus' and Stephen's words in Luke 23:34a and Acts 7:59-60. When we open our hands and hearts to the Lord, relinquishing our resentment and desire to curse, how might this bless us most of all? Might perpetual rehearsing of another's sin against us hurt us more than it hurts the offender? Unforgiveness, like cancer, must be removed, so it doesn't destroy us. Read Ephesians 4:30-5:2. Ask the Lord to make you willing to forgive others.

Friday, August 21

It is Not Easy

Pastor Rolf Olson, whose daughter was brutally murdered, speaks on forgiveness. He shares that it is not excusing the behavior, minimizing the offense, or forgetting. He also says, "Forgiveness is not fair." Then he explains that the alternative to forgiveness is far less helpful to our healing than forgiveness is. So the command to forgive is a gift, but it's a gift that often is not easy to embrace. We can do so only through the love of Jesus and the power of the Spirit. Read John 6:63; 8:31-32, 36; Romans 8:26-27, 34b-35a; and Philippians 4:13. Pray you will forgive.

Saturday, August 22

Receiving and Reflecting God's Great Heart of Mercy

Ponder how abundantly and freely God has forgiven you; consider the command to forgive others. Do you long for God's love and mercy to flow through you to others? Do you believe that the Lord can use even our greatest sorrows for his redemptive purposes as we yield our hearts and heartaches to him? Read Psalm 103:8-13; Isaiah 44:22; Micah 7:18-20; Romans 5:6-8; Ephesians 2:4-10; and Colossians 3:13-14, 17. Thank the Lord for forgiving you; ask the Lord to help you forgive; and pray that those who have hurt you will know God's redeeming love.

Sunday, August 23

Rejoice!

Think about the greatness of God's mercy and grace. Ponder the blessings that are ours when we forgive others. Consider these quotes about forgiveness: "To forgive is to set the prisoner free and discover that the prisoner was you" (*Lewis Smedes*); "Forgiveness does not change the past, but it does enlarge the future" (*Paul Boese*); and "Forgiveness is the fragrance the violet sheds on the heel that has crushed it" (*Mark Twain*). Read Psalm 103:8-13; Isaiah 43:25; and Colossians 3:12-17. Sing or pray: "My chains are gone; I've been set free. My God, my Savior has ransomed me, and like a flood, his mercy reigns, unending love, amazing grace." (*Tomlin, 2006, sixsteps Music*).