



Tidings of Joy

"Joyfully Reaching Out to Others in Christian Love and Service"
Joy Lutheran Church, ELCA



Volume 36, Issue 3

3174 Jupiter Blvd. SE – Palm Bay, FL 32909

March 2020

Staff

The Rev. John David Bryant - Pastor
Steven K. Weiss – Organist
Brenda Godson – Church Secretary

Worship Times:

Sunday

10:00a.m. Worship Service
8:45a.m. Adult Sunday School
Children's Education Time
(During the Sermon)

Saturday March 28th

5:30p.m. Pilgrim Journey Band
(Prayer and Praise)

Church Office Phone:
321-951-0166

Pastor's Email Address:
prjdbryant4tide@gmail.com

Church Email Address:
joylutheranpb@gmail.com

Church Web Site:
www.joylutheranelca.com



Lenten & Holy Week Service Times

March 4th through April 1st (Wednesdays):
Holden Evening Prayer midweek 6pm soup
& sandwich dinner, 6:30pm service.

Brief noon services without music will also
be held on Wednesdays during Lent.

April 5th - Palm Sunday (Palms will be
provided.)

April 9th - Maundy Thursday 6:30pm

April 10th - Good Friday Tenebrae 6:30pm

April 12th - Easter Sunday

"**Office Hours:** Weds and Thurs 9am-2pm and by appointment. It is strongly suggested to call ahead before dropping by. Pastor is off Mondays except for last week of month, when Friday is day off. Best means to contact pastor is 321-312-7339 or prjdbryant4tide@gmail.com."

Pastor's Corner

Pr. J. David Bryant

Friends,

The Lord be with you.

As we enter Lent, I wish to share a devotion with you. It helps us to ponder our appetites, what the early church referred to as “the stomach.” Our appetites are the cravings for food, sex, money, power, excessive sleep, etc., which pull us away from being the love of Jesus to self and others.

“Their god is their stomach . . . Their mind is set on earthly things. ([Philippians 3:19](#))

EMPTY

Perhaps some of you have seen a reality-TV series entitled, “My 600-lb Life.” The episodes follow the progress of individuals who are in desperate need of extreme weight loss. If you have not seen the show, you may quickly discover that you have much more in common with these individuals than you assume.

It could be that you also struggle with health issues related to weight. Whether you do or not, however, is beside the point. What’s striking is how so many of the individuals in the series are struggling with the same deep-seated problem. For years upon years, they have tried to fill an empty place in their lives with food.

That empty place may have come from a tragic death in their childhood, from abuse, or simply from a general sense of brokenness they cannot define. Their choice for filling that emptiness, however, has been food.

With what have you tried to fill your empty place? Maybe you’ve tried to fill it with food, work, or entertainment and recreation. Or perhaps you’ve tried to fill it with approval from others, constant busyness, alcohol, drugs, pornography, social media, politics, or news networks.

What you already know, however, is this. These things never fill the empty place. They never work. No matter how much you consume, the empty place always returns.

The frightening truth is that you and I, in the loneliness of self, are far emptier than we dare to fear. And that’s why we desperately need Jesus.

When Jesus came to this earth, he came to do far more than simply pay off the outstanding debt of our sin as if it were some abstract equation. In living a holy life on our behalf and then taking our failures to the cross, Jesus reshaped our entire relationship with our Creator. Now, through the power of the gospel, the Holy Spirit fills us. Jesus fills us. He fills us with his promises and his living, breathing Word...

And as he does, he fills your empty place and mine as nothing else will!

Prayer: Lord Jesus, forgive me. Forgive me for all the ways I have tried to fill my empty place with things that do not satisfy. Fill me with your Spirit. Amen.”

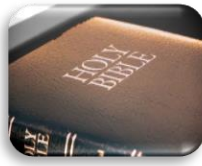
Let’s spend Lent pondering this devotion together. What do we, gathered together as JOY, seek to fill us rather than Jesus? What do we crave rather than Jesus Christ?

Wishing you a profitable Lent,
JDB+

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Lectionary "A" for March 2020



Gospel Readings

March 1st Matthew 4:1-11
March 8th John 3:1-17
March 15th John 4:5-42
March 22nd John 9:1-41
March 29th John 11:1-45

Educational offering during Lent

("5 Tough Questions")



Sunday evenings 5:30PM. Stephen Bryant, Lenoir-Rhyne University graduate w/B.S.in Religious Development, currently completing 2nd semester of master's study via American University will facilitate a discussion of "5 Tough Questions" facing God's 21st century church.

Saturday Night Pilgrim Journey Service March 28th @ 5:30pm

The Saturday evening Pilgrim Journey service format is a more informal worship service of prayer and praise. It will also be followed by a PIZZA FELLOWSHIP.

Prayer - Praise - Pizza

When you arrive for the service at 5:30 pm there will be a sign up for pizza. There is no charge, but we ask that you think about a donation of just \$1 a slice. There will be a choice of toppings. Just let us know how many slices you want and what kind, and we will place the order and it will be ready after the service.

Tea and lemonade will be provided, or else bring your own beverage.

Lenten & Holy Week Service Times

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April 5th - Palm Sunday (Palms will be provided.)

April 9th - Maundy Thursday 6:30pm (If you are able, bring sock donation for homeless.)

April 10th - Good Friday Tenebrae 6:30pm

April 12th - Easter Sunday

Mid-Week Lenten Services at Joy

The five Wednesday evenings, following Ash Wednesday, we will have a simple soup and sandwich supper together beginning at 6:00pm. Following dinner, at 6:30 pm, we will have a brief service of worship using Holden Evening Prayer.

Brief noon services without music will also be held on Wednesdays during Lent.

Wednesdays Together

“Wednesdays Together”, 2020 Lutheran Episcopal Prayer Svcs, 6pm prayer, 6:30pm Meal. A joint evening prayer service with Blessed Redeemer Episcopal (1225 DeGroot Road SW, Palm Bay, FL) starts January 29th at 6pm.

~~1/29 Prayer for Christian Unity @Blessed Redeemer. We provide desserts.~~

~~2/25 Shrove Tuesday @JOY. We provide pancake meal. Brief "Burning of the Palms" beforehand.~~

3/25 Holden Evening (Feast of the Annunciation) @JOY. We provide meal.

4/29 Feast of St. Catherine of Sienna @Blessed Redeemer. We provide desserts

5/21 Feast of the Ascension @JOY. We provide meal.

6/24 St. John the Baptist @Blessed Redeemer. We provide desserts

**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME
BEGINS MARCH 8TH**



**THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®**

Connecting faith & finances for good.®

Thank you for directing Choice Dollar® to Joy Lutheran Church.

Remember, 2019 Choice Dollars expire on March 31, 2020. Please direct your dollars before they expire. Joy Lutheran Church can be a designated place to distribute your “Choice Dollars”.

Shepherd's Center

Shepherd Spring Sessions will be Thursdays, April 16th thru May 7th.
Class will be held at Joy Lutheran Church at 3174 Jupiter Blvd. SE, Palm Bay.

As of this writing the following classes are planned;

Peg Curry will return with Ken Burns National Parks. Rick Rakaukas will do a Musical History Tour. Stretching with Val. Jack and Ann return with Aerial World Tour. Recycling will be four different speakers. German with Helga. Book Group returns with Jill Hamilton. Ebay/PayPal with Daniel Wagman. Celeste Jones will do subjects such as Sidewalk Art, Amazing Bridges, and What the Heck Is That?

2020 Church Council Installation



Kelly Arner, Rene Harper, Gary Krause, Pr. Bryant, Peggy Marion, Mary Sherman, Marjorie Mäenpää, Dudley Bowling
The following were not available for photo: Melody Shaffer, Ray Shaffer, Barbara Sparks, and Kim Tolley

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Now, with March soon to be upon us, we prepare to enter Lent. Days get longer and our Winter Friends will soon be pondering return trips above the snowline.

Our Annual Meeting fell late this year. We had much to discuss and consider. One of the things we discussed was providing a monthly update on Church Council actions. Soon, we will be voting to adopt changes to the JOY Constitution. News on that will be coming your way very soon.

This month's Church Council meeting falls on 2/24, so there's nothing to report just yet. I am looking forward to working with the newly voted in members of the council, and what perspectives they may have on helping the congregation grow. Information about the Council meeting will appear in March. This is because February is a short month.

We're looking forward to a great 2020 together. Thanks for your time and generosity. Stay tuned, for monthly Council news is now a part of the newsletter.

Melody Shaffer,
Church Council President

Worship and Music

Updates on Paraments:

In last month's newsletter I mentioned that W&M would like to purchase new Paraments for Holy week. This is something we believe would add to the beauty and reflection of the season. The Paraments will run about \$2,800.00.

We did have a few donations and will continue to look for other donations and will offer Fund Raising events. If you personally have designated funds in the Memorial Account that you may want to contribute to this project, or you would personally be willing to make a donation, please let myself or Linda Collins know. This will help in our planning. Thanks for your support of this project!

Palm Trees:

The selling of Palm Trees last year went so well that we are going to do it again this year. I will go out and purchase the Palm Trees that will be used to decorate our Altar for Palm Sunday. We are asking Joy members to pay the cost of the tree you'd like to purchase and you can then take it to beautify your own home.

Once again, I will purchase and if you need help getting it home let me know. I have not checked prices yet this year. Last year the large trees were under \$20.00 and the small plants were \$10.00. I figure they are about the same this year.

What is needed: (2) 5-6 Foot, (2) 3-4 Foot, and (4) Smaller plants for the Altar

If you are interested please let me know. (Chris 321-388-2555)

Blessings to All,
Chris Allebaugh

3rd TUESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Meeting March 17 @ 11:30 a.m.

We are called!



Reformer Martin Luther used the word “vocation” or “calling” to refer to all aspects of human life. We are called to respond to God not just in our personal relationship with God but in our relationships with family and friends, in our work, and in our communities. This four-part Bible study will explore stories from both the Old and New Testament. As we reflect on how our biblical forebears heard and responded to God's call, we will gain insight into how God is calling us—and how God may be calling others through us.

Session 3 “Called to Serve”

Jesus is clear that one of the central ways we respond to God's call is by serving others. When we serve others, we are recognizing Christ present in their need. When we serve others, they see Christ visible in our loving service. This session engages scriptural texts that help us focus on the questions, “Who is my neighbor, and what does my neighbor need?”

On Tuesday February 18th WELCA of Joy shipped out 75 quilts; 40 new children's book bags and over 500 bars of soap! We more than made our pledge! Thank you, all members of Joy!



We also donate health kits to Daily Bread on a monthly basis. Please see Connie Steinhorst or Linda Kratzer if you have any "hotel samples" or other health items like toothpaste or tooth brushes you would like to donate.



JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

CIRCLE MEETINGS

Eve Circle (Bible Study) – 3rd Tuesday each month @ 11:30, Bible Study from the *Gather* magazine

Dorcas Circle (Quilting circle) – every Tuesday @ 10:00

Rachel Circle (knitting/crocheting circle) - every Wednesday @ 10:00

UPCOMING EVENTS:

MARCH 7: WELCA Pancake Breakfast

MARCH 7; 10:00 a.m. WELCA meeting

MARCH 21: National Quilt Day – Quilting Bee

MARCH 22: National Quilt Day – quilts displayed, Pastor to bless quilts

APRIL 25: – Spacecoast Conference Spring Gathering at Our Savior's, Vero Beach. Carpooling and more information to come.

DON'T FORGET – PANCAKE BREAKFAST on March 7th starting at 8:00 a.m. thru 9:30 a.m., Pancakes (blueberry or buttermilk), sausages, and scrambled eggs. \$6.00

Thank all of you for contributing to the Lutheran World Relief Soap Collection. We shipped 500 bars of soap, 75 quilts and 40 school supplies backpacks.

WELCA would like to invite the congregation to be part of the **“GOOD GIFTS/FARM ANIMALS”** project. The fundraiser will be headed up by WELCA. March 1st will be the official startup date with more information. The closing date will be Easter (April 12th).



March 21st from 9:30 to 12:00, coffee & refreshment – “QUILTING BEE”. A social event for all ladies in the congregation to get together to make a quilt for Lutheran World Relief (LWR). No prior quilting experience required. Materials will be provided. Contact person: Linda Kratzer



Imagine the comfort and care you feel when you snuggle under a comforter. That's the feeling your share through an LWR Mission Quilt. Useful for shielding against the cold and rain, and for warm bedding, quilts can also be used as simple tents, floor coverings, or a wrap to hold a baby on a mother's back. In a simple combination of fabric and thread, you reach out to people in their time of greatest need with a strong message of hope – you are not alone.

Young at Heart ♥

Young at Heart will be meeting on **Thursday March 19th at noon**. All are welcome. Invite your friends, relatives, and neighbors. It will be a potluck luncheon. So please bring a dish to share (your choice of meat, vegetable, salad, or dessert). The fellowship is always wonderful.

For additional information contact:
Majorie Mäenpää (321) 327-8400

Always check Sunday's bulletin for any changes.



BACKPACK PROGRAM

The "Bread of Life" backpack program for Turner Elementary School is a wonderful outreach to our community. So please be generous in your monetary donations, as we provide food for **seven** families each weekend. The cost is about \$175 per week.

To contribute, use your offering envelope and specify Backpack on the "Other" line.

Thank you everyone for your donations and helping with the packing and delivery of the backpacks.

See Charlotte Abrahams for any further details concerning this great program.



Daily Bread

Volunteering at the Daily Bread can be a great opportunity. It allows you to help those less fortunate in our community. Daily Bread is located at 815 E. Fee Avenue, Melbourne. Daily Bread serves a hot meal every day to our homeless, and people in need. JOY members are a part of making this happen.

Please consider volunteering with our team on the 4th Friday of the month.

March 27th @ 10:45 – 1:30 p.m.
Contact Elaine Heine (215-7928) or
Connie Steinhorst (725-6391)

*"...for I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me something
to drink, I was a stranger and you
welcomed me..."*

Matthew 25:35 (NRSV)



Tidings of Joy is only as good as the input received from Church Council, WELCA, Men's Group, Various Committees, Circles, etc. Please provide David Steinhorst with your news, thankyou's, updates, etc. for the **April Tidings no later than March 25th**.

Email David Steinhorst
dsteinhorst@cfl.rr.com or provide a printed copy.

Property Committee Update

The new Year 2020 has started with whirl wind of activity for the JOY Property Committee. We welcomed a new member to our group. Newly elected Council Member Gary Krause has joined our ranks. Gary brings renewed vitality and expertise talents as a professional electrician. As some of our older members are getting on and cutting back do to health limitations, it is nice to have some of our younger members be able to join and lend a much-welcomed hand.

January saw the group tackle the Memorial Garden bridge renovation. Some of the preparation of the wood work was completed off site at the home of members, with final assembly taking place at JOY. The newly renovated bridge should serve the members of JOY for years to come. The sprinkler system around the Church was once again the object of the work as it seems to be in constant need of care support. The various zones of the system are being tested and the sprinkler heads and connecting plastic pipe are being replaced as needed. Time has taken its toll on the original phone system which was more than likely installed as JOY was originally built. The antiquated PBX system fails causing the phones in the church to fail and stop working. The initial cause was assumed to be with phone service from Spectrum and a service call was placed to Spectrum. The technician discovered that there were some cuts in the cable from the outside of JOY roof to the central air conditioner room in the Wollam Jackson room. The cable was replaced, but the technician also discovered that the PBX system had failed, so the system was disconnected and later new phones were purchased to replace the three phones in the church. Following the security/safety inspection by the Brevard County Sheriff's Office and the recommendations for security cameras outside around the church perimeter, quotes from local vendors have been obtained to place six security cameras outside the building with recording capabilities inside the church and smart phone monitoring. Funding for the project will be obtained through a federal grant program. January also saw the men hard at work in cleaning dead trees and low hanging branches around the church. Some of the branches are in the wires of the Florida Power and Spectrum phone and internet lines. FPL has been contacted and they will come and have the limbs around the wires removed, allowing the Property Committee to remove the lower limbs safely without having to worry about the wires. The interior of the Church has also received some much-needed attention. Cracks in the walls and ceilings have been patched, new brackets installed for the Christmas wreath. A dry erase board was installed on the wall of the Wollom-Jackson room, thanks to a donation from the Harris Corporation, through the efforts of Peggy Kemmerer.

Erik U. Mäenpää,
Property Chair

MARK YOUR CALENDAR "DAY CAMP 2020"

Day Camp 2020 is set for June 15-19, 9am-4pm. The following week, Blessed Redeemer will host a second Day Camp. We are drawing from two different pools of children, so this is collaborative and not competitive.

Stephen Bryant will be JOY's congregational contact person. He is looking for volunteers to handle housing four counselors, the Sunday night welcome for counselors, managing check-in/check-out, registration, daily snacks, and a nightly fun thing for counselors. Feel free to contact him at: stephenbry@gmail.com

Registration forms will be available once they become available to us from Novus Way. Children K-8 are welcome to attend. And, it's perfectly fine if they are not Lutheran. Fee will be less than \$10 per child.

BSA Scout Sunday

On February 9th Scouts BSA had its annual Scout Sunday Day. Our very own Alexis Woods, a member of Joy, is also a member of Scouts BSA Troop 117 all Girl Troop. On February 9th, Alexis along with 4 other members of Troop 117 enjoyed the service at Joy. The troop helped with greeting members of Joy and helped with serving during fellowship. A big part of Scouts BSA is a Scout being Reverent. Alexis wanted to show how she is Reverent, as well as share her Church with her troop. Thank you to Pastor Bryant, and the Joy Council for allowing her to do just that. Also, a HUGE thank you to the members for being welcoming to Troop 117.



Men of Joy

You may have noticed a wall-mounted TV screen in the room we all use for Sunday morning fellowship. That's the beginning of a project the Men of Joy are doing to outfit our meeting rooms with computer monitors/TVs so that we can show educational videos, slide presentations and the like. These should be of use for our educational program, for our meetings, and for outside groups that meet at Joy. Our goal is to install several more screens in the side rooms, but we could still use your help. If you or a friend or neighbor upgrade your HDTV to a newer model and your old one is an LCD TV 47-55 inches in size, please keep our project in mind. Thanks to one of our members for the donation of the first screen. If you have a TV to donate, please call Mort Walton or Jim Collins, and we'll pick it up.

By the way, you are welcome to use the screen for any meetings that you have; just bring along a laptop with an HDMI video connector, plug in the cable provided with the TV and turn on the TV by pressing the front panel on the lower right corner by the ON/OFF symbol. If you're set up to use a second monitor, your picture should come right up. We don't yet have a remote control for this unit. You can display video files, PowerPoint slides, photo albums, documents and many other types of media. The TV also has built-in speakers.

We care about you!



If you so desire, please let us know when you or your family is in the hospital. If you want to have information about your hospitalization and basic condition released to Joy Lutheran Church, you need to inform the hospital. Also, please have someone call the church at 321-951-0166 and let us know you have been hospitalized.

Please contact the church office, if you would like to have a visit from Pastor Bryant, a Stephen Minister, or would like to be listed for prayer support.



¹⁸The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit. ¹⁹Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord rescues them from them all. Psalm 34:18-19(NRSV)

We especially pray for:

Norman Barmen	Tina Breeden
Donald Christensen	Larry Ciecierski
Emilio Cruz	Winnie Hall
Gunner Heim	Jason Herndon
Pr. David Jahn	Bob Lengel
Julio Melendez	Judy Marciano
Elizabeth Planding	Joyce Powell
Rebecca Reynolds	Joy Sorensen
Thelma Tucker	Sherry Weldon

Note: See Sunday Bulletins for additional and most current prayer concerns.

JOY CORE VALUES

Worship: Joyfully experiencing Christ through word, music, sacrament and prayer

Property: Providing the physical means to fulfill the spiritual needs of church and community

Outreach: Extending Christ's compassion and care to others

Fellowship: Enjoying each other's company

Welcoming: There is a place at Joy for everyone

Education: Getting to know the Word

Relationships: Everyone is worthy of care and respect

2020 Church Council

Pastor - Rev. John David Bryant

President – Melody Shaffer

Vice President – Majorie Mäenpää

Secretary - Kelly Arner

Treasurer - Kim Tolley

Financial Secretary - Renee Harper

Council Members at Large:

Dudley Bowling

Gary Krause

Peggy Marion

Ray Shaffer

Mary Sherman

Barbara Sparks



March Birthday Blessings

3/02 Gene Sorensen
 3/05 Tamara Embrey
 3/08 Mark Motluck
 3/13 Emmanouill Manoussakis
 3/15 Ken Laumer
 3/13 Robert Nickos
 3/20 Zechariah Bush
 3/21 Lois Manaseri
 3/22 Jane Antonsen
 3/22 Alex Tolley
 3/26 Alexis Woods
 3/27 Sharon Russell
 3/29 Bonnie Getter
 3/30 Anita Sherwood-Saul
 3/31 John David Bryant

Notify the church office, if corrections need to be made to the Birthday List.



The Flower Chart is posted in the Narthex. If you would like to have flowers in honor of or in memory of someone please choose the Sunday and sign up. You may put your check for \$20.00 in your offering envelope and indicate that you are paying for flowers. There may be some dates blocked out by Worship and Music, for the Festival Sundays. If someone has already signed up for the date you wanted, please choose a date close to the one you want, or let the church office know you have signed up, so two vases of flowers can be ordered. Flowers are provided by "**Emma's Flowers.**"



Eternal Candle

If you would like to provide the **Eternal Candle** you may also sign up on the Flower Chart for the month you wish. The cost is \$5.00 weekly.

January 2020 Stewardship

General Fund	(Please see Sunday bulletin for current information.)		
Needed each Month	\$13,863	Needed YTD	\$13,863
Received in January	\$10,826	Received YTD	\$10,826
Capital Improvement Fund			
Budgeted each Month	\$1,662	Budgeted YTD	\$1,692
Received in January	\$1,489	Received YTD	\$1,489

MARCH 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship		10am Dorcas Circle Quilting	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting 12pm Lenten Svc 6:00pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Service		8:30am Property Work Day	9:00am "Men of Joy" Bible Study & Business Mtg
DST Begins 8	9	10	11	12	13	14
8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship		10am Dorcas Circle Quilting 11am Fellowship Mtg	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting 12pm Lenten Svc 6:00pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Service		8:30am Property Work Day	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship		10am Dorcas Circle Quilting 11:30pm Eve Circle Bible Study	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting 12pm Lenten Svc 6:00pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Service	12pm Young at Heart	8:30am Property Work Day	9:30am-12pm Quilting Bee
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship		10am Dorcas Circle	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting 12pm Lenten Svc 6:00pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Service		8:30am Property Work Day 11am-1:30pm Daily Bread	5:30pm Prayer & Praise Worship Pilgrim Journey
29	30	31				
8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship	7pm Council Mtg	10am Dorcas Circle Quilting				Check Sunday Bulletins for details or changes in schedule.