



# Tidings of Joy



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

Volume 37, Issue 2

3174 Jupiter Blvd. SE – Palm Bay, FL 32909

February 2021

## Staff

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

## Worship Times:

### Sunday

10:00a.m. Worship Service

### Saturday February 27th

2:00p.m. Pilgrim Journey Band  
(Prayer and Praise)

#### **Church Office Phone:**

321-951-0166

#### **Pastor's Email Address:**

[prjdbryant4tide@gmail.com](mailto:prjdbryant4tide@gmail.com)

#### **Church Email Address:**

[joylutheranpb@gmail.com](mailto:joylutheranpb@gmail.com)

#### **Church Web Site:**

[www.joylutheranelca.com](http://www.joylutheranelca.com)

**NOTE: In-Person worship, with call ahead seating. In-person church meetings, events, & activities may be resumed in limited fashion, subject to social distancing guidelines and after obtaining church council approval. Watch for updates from Pr. Bryant.**



Lent Begins  
Ash Wednesday  
February 17, 2021



"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 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month, when Friday is day off. Best means to contact pastor is 321-312-7339 or [pjdbryant4tide@gmail.com](mailto:pjdbryant4tide@gmail.com)."

## Pastor's Corner

Pr. J. David Bryant

Friends---

The Lord be with you.

We enter Lent on February 17<sup>th</sup>. And, within that season, we take stock of what our Lord requires of us and how we live (and do not live) into those requirements. Consider God's words to Ancient Israel through Prophet Micah:

“He had told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”  
---Micah 6:8

Prophet Micah asks, “what does God require of us?” Amidst Ancient Israel's challenges, with so many voices clamoring for attention, with traditional structures previously deemed secure shaking, it was easy to lose sight of God's requirements as people perceived themselves to be awash in personal agendas, dishonesty, corruption, and injustice. In a nation where both the leaders and the people had gone so far afield that they were completely lost, Micah raises the God requirement question.

Given the intended audience of Micah's question, they'd probably answer: properly prepared sacrifices, dutiful worship attendance, at least the bare minimum offering, and to never use God's Name in vain.

However, Micah answers not from a human perspective, but from God's perspective. And the answer challenges us to ask, “am I really living into that?”

Amidst post-election pandemic challenges, with so many voices clamoring for our attention, with traditional structures previously deemed secure shaking, isn't it easy to lose sight of God's requirements? To this end, please allow me to remind us that God doesn't require what we have come to expect. God does not require us to show up for worship in fancy clothes, knowing all books of the Bible in alphabetical order, and having all dogma and doctrine perfectly worked out. God has never required such things. To the contrary, God has perennially required that we do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. These are requisite actions for living lives of faith.

Too often we reduce faith into perfected beliefs and into how precisely we can articulate those beliefs. Yet, Micah calls us to see faith as something more, as what we do. How does relationship with God change how we live our lives, change what we do? It's a faithful question.

Jesus summarizes the life of faith as totally loving God and totally loving our neighbor as ourselves.

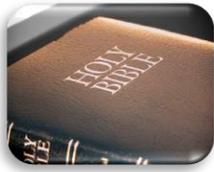
Faith is no feeling, no perfected collection of dogmatics; it's a verb. It is how we live lives with a love that humbly walks with God, seeking justice, and extending kindness to all. This is God's requirement.

Micah isn't seeking to disparage us; Micah realizes how we miss the mark. None are perfect. We all struggle to live into this. Still, we are called to aspire. God's grace empowers us to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God. It's a daily practice, not a daily perfection.

How about let's make it our daily practice, not just for Lent, but for all that days to come.

Peace---

JDB+



### Gospel Readings

#### Lectionary "B" for February 2021

- February 7    Mark 1:29-39
- February 14    Mark 9:2-9
- February 21    Mark 1:9-15
- February 28    Mark 8:31-38



Service times for Lent, Holy Week and Easter

**Ash Wednesday**    Feb 17th - Noon & 6:30pm

**Mid-Week Lenten Service** - 6:30pm

**Palm Sunday**        March 28th - 8:30am & 10:00am

**Maundy Thursday** April 1st - 7:00pm

**Good Friday**        April 2nd - 7:00pm

**Easter Sunday**     April 4th - 8:30am and 10:00am



**February 7, 2021**  
**12:00 p.m.**  
**(Following the Service)**

Congregational Meeting  
March 14, 2021



Church Council has set a congregational meeting date, for the second Sunday in March, **3/14/21**, to present and offer for adoption the 2019 revision of our Church Constitution.

*Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you. 1 Peter 5:7 (NLT)*

## Worship and Music

It seems like we just celebrated Christmas and now we are planning for Ash Wednesday, Lenten Services and Holy Week.

We will be taking reservations just as we do for Sunday Services for Ash Wednesday, Lenten Services on Wednesday evenings, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter.

Ash Wednesday we will be having 2 services, Noon and 6:30pm. I will take reservations in church on Sundays, or you can call, text or email me; at [Chrisallebaugh@gmail.com](mailto:Chrisallebaugh@gmail.com) or at 321-388-2555.

Just a heads up on a few things that are coming up:

**Palm Sunday**- we will once again be asking if anyone wants to purchase a Palm Tree for the Altar. I will purchase them, and you get to take them home to plant in your yard. As we get closer, I will give you more information about cost etc.

**Maundy Thursday** – we will be collecting socks once again for Maundy Thursday. Men's, Women's or children's socks will once again be given to Daily Bread.

**Easter** – we will have Lilies available to purchase this year. More information to follow.

### Paraments- Holy Week

You may remember last year at this time we were talking about raising funds to purchase Holy Week Paraments. Then of course as we all know; things came to a halt. We are once again looking into purchasing these beautiful paraments. We are currently comparing prices. We are requesting donations for the purchase of the Paraments. If this is something you would be interest in contributing to, let me know. Once we have final figures, we will pass that on also.

Blessing,  
Chris Allebaugh

## Reopening Task Force

The 2020 saw the formation of our Reopening task Force, tasked with the job of developing a plan and protocol to safely open JOY for in person services. Some of us harbored hopes and dreams that this work was to be short in duration as we certainly would be able to return to full in person services at JOY.

I am reminded of a quote by Robert Capa one of the greatest war photographers who covered five wars starting with the Spanish Civil war and ending with the first Indo China War. A reporter asked Robert Capa what would be his greatest hope and dream, to which Robert Capa replied "to become unemployed". So, the members of the task Force hold on in hope that we may also become part of a group whose services are no longer needed as we finally beat Covid-19. Until such time, we will continue to meet on an as needed basis as new information becomes available from the various government agencies and the Synod.

At the present time we will continue to require that masks be worn in church at all gatherings from the Sunday Service to all committee and group activities. We will continue to disinfect the facility and maintain social distancing.

Erik Maenpaa  
Reopening Task Force



## JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church (WELCA)

### **DRIVE-THRU PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

Saturday, March 6, 2021

8:00 – 9:30

Please sign up @ church or call:

Marjorie Maenpaa @ 327-8400 or email [marjorie.maenpaa@gmail.com](mailto:marjorie.maenpaa@gmail.com)

Connie Steinhorst @ 725-6391 or email [csteinhorst@cfl.rr.com](mailto:csteinhorst@cfl.rr.com)

Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage

\$6.00



## JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Joint WELCA and Men's Group

### **White Elephant Sale**

April 17, 2021

9:00 – 2:00 p.m.



All donations for White Elephant sale are welcomed (no clothing items).

Yard Sale Tables for rent \$10.00

Contact: Marjorie Maenpaa @ 327-8400 or email [marjorie.maenpaa@gmail.com](mailto:marjorie.maenpaa@gmail.com)



## JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

**ALL MEETINGS ARE TENTATIVE UNTIL THE CORONAVIRUS STAY AT HOME RESTRICTIONS ARE LIFTED**

The following individuals were elected at the annual meeting held on January 9, 2021.

### 2021 Officers

President	Marjorie Maenpaa
Vice Pres	Harriet Bryant
Secretary	Connie Steinhorst
Treasurer	Linda Kratzer

### Events planned for 2021

February 28th	BOLD WOMEN Sunday
March 6th	Drive-thru Pancake Breakfast
April 17th	White Elephant Sale
May	RACHEL'S DAY (tentative)
June/July	Start of school supplies campaign for Turner Elementary and LWR school packs
November 6th	Holiday Festival Craft Sale and Silent Auction
November 12-14 (tentative)	FL-Bahamas SWO Fall Gathering @ Lake Yale

### **Mark Your Calendars**

"One Blood" blood drive at JOY  
Sunday, Feb.21<sup>st</sup>, 8:00am-1:00pm

You can register online at:  
<https://www.oneblood.org>



## Property Committee

As the New Year gets under way, we continue to keep after the property by clearing out brush and some tree stumps of old palm and pine trees that have been removed earlier in 2020.

The light at the top of the portico directed to the front of the church and the cross was finally replaced by Ken Laumer and Gary Krause. The new light is a welcomed addition to the overall lighting scheme around the church.

Some additional lights and spot lights around the perimeter of the building as well as, around the Memorial garden will receive some much-needed attention this coming year.

We will also have the broken areas in the center of the parking lot repaired. This work will be completed by outside contractors as the work is beyond the members of the JOY Property Committee.

We are still waiting for bids on the plan to replace the exterior front doors at the portico.

The interior walls of the sanctuary are tentatively scheduled to be painted starting on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021

The parking lot is on track to be power washed later in the year.

Erik Maenpaa  
Property Committee

## Audit Committee

The 2020 audit has been completed and the report will be included in the JOY 2020 Annual Report.

Following the Annual Meeting, the committee will continue to meet on a quarterly basis. This will allow us to complete the audit in a timely fashion.

In 2021, we will conduct and prepare an inventory of JOY tangible property with an inventory record at the office as well as off site.

The Audit Committee is also recommending to the Church Council to have the building appraised professionally. This will allow us to see that the insured value of our building reflects the accurate cost and that we are not under valuing or over valuing our building on our insurance policy.

We are also recommending that our property and liability insurance policies are once more placed on bids to ensure that we are properly insured at competitive pricing.

Erik Maenpaa  
Audit Committee

## STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

To be grateful is to recognize the love of God in everything He has given us – and He has given us everything. Every breath we draw is a gift of His Love, every moment of existence is a grace, for it brings with it immense graces from Him. *Thomas Merton*

Remember, stewardship is not just about money. God calls us to be generous in all areas of our lives and invites us to explore the many opportunities to share ourselves through our time and talent.

## Love Your Neighbor

*Jesus said, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.” –Matthew 22:37-40*

What a shame that February – the one month of the year with keen focus on love – is also the shortest. We sure could use a lot more love in our world, especially for our neighbor.

The last 12 months have been particularly hard, as race riots, a divisive election and civil unrest have all unfolded against a traumatic backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic. Currently in very short supply, more love for neighbor would go a long way in helping us to solve our problems.

Love for neighbor is integral to not only good discipleship, but also good stewardship. The greater the “love for neighbor” factor in our lives, the better stewards we will be of every blessing God provides – creation, time, relationships, money, possessions, health, to name just a few. By cultivating love for neighbor, we will also enjoy a happier life and promote a healthier and more civil society.

The opposite is also true. Cultivating enmity for neighbor leaves us sour, selfish and cynical, while also making our nation angry and selfish.

This year make February “Love Your Neighbor” month in your personal devotions and your congregational life. Give the concept breathing room in your life. Keep it in your thoughts, sow it in our heart, talk about it to your family and friends.

Pray for God to teach you what it means to love our neighbor. Pray for God to give you the strength and will to live it. And watch as love heals and invigorates your life ... and our world.

Copyright © 2021, Rev. Robert Blezard. Pastor Blezard serves as pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, MD, and works as content editor for [www.stewardshipoflife.org](http://www.stewardshipoflife.org). He blogs at [www.thestewardshipguy.com](http://www.thestewardshipguy.com).

Please remember this important outreach program.



### **BACKPACK PROGRAM** **“BREAD OF LIFE” 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 as many as seven families each weekend. This program is so very important, especially at this time with families barely making ends meet. The cost is approximately \$175 per week.

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 outreach program.

## Daily Bread, Inc.

815 E. Fee Avenue  
Melbourne, FL

Love God. Love Others.



Daily Bread ensures that no one in Brevard County faces hunger or homelessness alone. All are welcome at Daily Bread.

You can be a part of this ministry. JOY members volunteer the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday each month @ 10:45 – 1:30 p.m.

Contact Elaine Heine (215-7928) or Connie Steinhorst (725-6391).

Daily Bread is located at: 815 E Fee Avenue, Melbourne, Florida 32901

## Newsletter

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 **March 2021 Tidings no later than February 23rd.**

Email David Steinhorst [dsteinhorst@cfl.rr.com](mailto:dsteinhorst@cfl.rr.com) or provide a printed copy.

## Online giving is an option for us, and also for others visiting our website.

A link to our online giving portal is found on the JOY website. The secure link to that portal is:

<https://www.joylutheranelca.com>

Scroll down to the purple box that says "online giving." Feel free to check it out, even if you do not elect to use it. What can it hurt to learn about something new, right?

Again, this is an option, not just for ourselves but for others beyond JOY. Participate if you feel so led. Don't participate if you are not so led. Give in whatever way works best to suit you.



**"I get by with a little help  
from my friends."**

Taking a fall and breaking my wrist has not been fun. But I am healing fine. All your warm wishes, cards, and prayers have definitely helped in my healing process. Thank you to my Joy family.

*Connie Steinhorst*

## 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.



### We especially pray for:

Norm Barmen	Tina Breeden
Donald Christensen	Steve Christensen
Family of Stanford Day	Nancy Feightner
Brenda Godson & Family	Dan Giardiello
Winnie Hall	Gunner Heim
Dean & Jan Jahnke	Craig & Megan Lattig
Judy Marciano	Valerie Mariano
Julio Melendez	Jackie Mertens
Pat Muth	Carol Nichols
Ron Pagelsdorf	Elizabeth Planding
Karen Runk	Barbara Scronce
Gene Sorensen	Connie Steinhorst
Jackie Tolley	Thelma Tucker
Betty Walton	Sherry Weldon
Damon Williams	

## 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** – Marjorie Mäenpää

**Secretary** - Kelly Arner

**Treasurer** - Kim Tolley

**Financial Secretary** - Renee Harper

### **Council Members at Large:**

Dudley Bowling

Bob Getter

Gary Krause

Peggy Marion

Mary Sherman

Barbara Sparks



### February Birthday Blessings

- 2/03 Brian Getter
- 2/05 George Christensen
- 2/07 Pr. John Green
- 2/16 Kenneth Wolf, Jr.
- 2/17 Don Heine
- 2/20 Roy Chin
- 2/22 Kaitlin Embrey
- 2/22 Pat Moerke
- 2/24 Luther Radway
- 2/26 Joy Peters
- 2/28 Megan Lattig

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 thru December 2020 Stewardship

<b>General Fund</b>	(Please see Sunday bulletin for current information.)		
Needed each Month	\$13,863	Needed YTD	\$166,356
Received in December	\$19,039	Received YTD	\$150,230
<b>Capital Improvement Fund</b>			
Budgeted each Month	\$1,662	Budgeted YTD	\$19,944
Received in December	\$1,743	Received YTD	\$18,739

*Remember the church with your regular offerings.  
The church needs your support.  
Thank you in advance for your generosity!*

## FEBRUARY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		10:00am Dorcas Circle Quilting	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting		8:30am Property Work Day	9:00am "Men of Joy" Bible Study & Business Mtg
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10:00am Worship <b>12:00pm Annual Meeting</b>		10:00am Dorcas Circle Quilting  11:00am Fellowship Meeting	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting		8:30am Property Work Day	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10:00am Worship		10:00am Dorcas Circle Quilting	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting  <b>12:00pm &amp; 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service</b>		8:30am Property Work Day	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10:00am Worship	7pm Council Mtg	10:00am Dorcas Circle Quilting	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting  <b>6:30pm Mid-Week Lenten Service</b>		8:30am Property Work Day	2:00pm Prayer & Praise Worship Pilgrim Journey
28	1	2	3	4	5	6
10:00am Worship						
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
						<b>Check website &amp; messages from Pastor Bryant for changes in schedule.</b>