



Tidings of Joy



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

Volume 39, Issue 3

3174 Jupiter Blvd. SE – Palm Bay, FL 32909

March 2023

Staff

The Rev. John David Bryant - Pastor
Steven K. Weiss – Organist

Worship Time(s):

Sunday

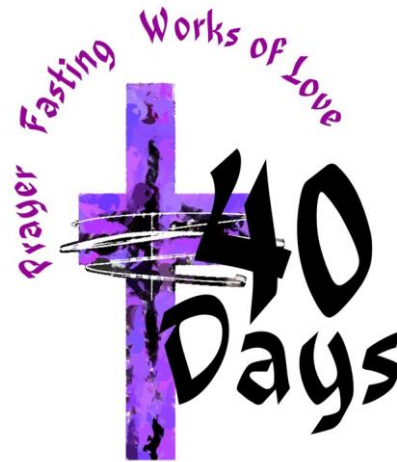
Traditional Worship Service
10:00a.m.

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



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

Pastor's Point

Pr. J. David Bryant

Friends---

One year, during Lent, a family visited a friend's church. As the host was pointing out the beauty of the stained-glass windows, all eyes were instead drawn to a large, wooden cross to the right of the altar, to which dozens of pieces of paper were attached. The parishioners, they learned, had written down what they hoped to give up for Lent and had placed them there as a weekly reminder.

Everyone smiled in understanding when they saw, attached to the very top, someone's evidently over-used MasterCard.

In Luke chapter 7, the Evangelist tells us that Jesus was invited to dine with Simon the Pharisee. Jesus goes to Simon's house, sits down at the dinner table when a woman, deemed a trollop, comes with a bottle of costly perfume, and stands at Jesus' feet, weeping; letting down her hair, she dries his feet, kisses them, and anoints them with perfume. The Pharisee who had invited Jesus sees this and says to himself, "If this man were any prophet at all, he would see how this woman is no good!"

Jesus says to him, "Simon, I have a story for you."

"Two men were up to their eyeballs in debt. One owed \$500 bucks, the other owed \$50. Neither could pay, so the creditor canceled both debts. Which of the two proved most grateful?"

Simon answers, "The one forgiven the \$500 bucks."

"That's right," says Jesus. Then turning to the woman, yet speaking to Simon, he says, "Do you see this woman? I came to your home; you provided no water for my feet, but she soaked my feet with her tears...You provided nothing for freshening up, but she has provided the best she had. Extravagant, isn't it? She was forgiven many sins, and so she is very grateful. If the forgiveness is small, the gratitude is small."

Anglican theologian, C. S. Lewis says, "To be a Christian means to forgive the inexcusable in others because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you."

The person who loves much is a forgiving person. The person who forgives much is a forgiven person. Forgiveness is like a circle of mercy — not a vicious circle, but a gracious circle. We cannot experience God's forgiveness unless we are willing to forgive. At the same time, our willingness to forgive flows from the experience of God's forgiving nature.

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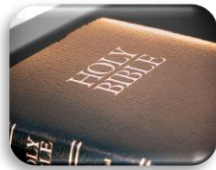
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Once, a woman set out to buy a silver soup-ladle. The salesman at the silversmith's was obliging. He showed her many ladles. Some were very fancy, gilded pieces with embossed handles and arabesques. The woman couldn't decide. "Perhaps," said the salesman, "you would care to look at something like this." And he brought out a ladle that was plain and unadorned. This one pleased the woman very much. She wanted to buy it. But the price! It was nearly double the cost of any of the rest. She asked why and the salesman said: "You see, in fancy, ornamental ware the flaws of the material don't show. The defects are covered up by the ornamentation. As you can see, the plain ladle is free of defects. If there were any, you would see them easily. It's as simple as that."

It's as simple as that! When you strip away all the fancy words about what it means to be a genuine disciple of Jesus, it all comes down to forgiveness. And no amount of ornamentation can cover that up.

Have a faithful Lent.

JDB+



Gospel Readings

Lectionary "A" for March

March 5	John 3:1-17
March 12	John 4:5-42
March 19	John 9:1-41
March 26	John 11:1-45



Next meeting:
March 15th at 7:00pm

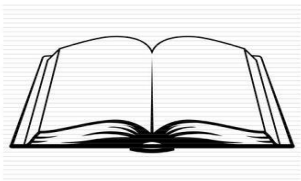


Service Times Lent, Holy Week and Easter

- Mid-Week Lenten Service**.....6:00pm
- Palm Sunday** (April 2nd).....10:00am
- Maundy Thursday** (April 6th).....6:00pm
- Good Friday** (April 7th).....6:00pm
- Easter Sunday** (April 9th).....10:00am

Soup & Sandwiches at 5:30pm, prior to the mid-week Lenten Services.

**Winter/Spring 2023 Bible study,
“The Ten Commandments”**
Eve Circle (Bible Study)
3rd Tuesday, March 21 @ 11:30



**March 2023 Session three: Sanctity of
life and love (Commandments 5 & 6)**

In our third session, we will review some of the major murders of the Bible. We'll also delve into the scriptural witness to the spirituality of sex and the covenant of marriage.

Join *Gather* magazine and revive your soul in 2023 with a four-session study of the ten commandments. ELCA pastor and Bible study author Christa von Zychlin will help us see how these commandments are more than they may appear at first glance.

Young at Heart ❤️

Young at Heart will be meeting on **March 16th at noon**. All are welcome, especially those fifty-five and over. Invite your friends, relatives, and neighbors. Lunch will be potluck, so please bring your favorite casserole or dessert to share.

Be sure to stay afterwards for fellowship. We always have a wonderful time getting to know each other. So, please come out and join us. Always check Sunday's bulletin for any changes.

**DON'T FORGET!
MARCH 12TH, 2023
SET YOUR CLOCKS
FORWARD 1 HOUR**



**“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 important, especially with families barely making ends meet. The cost is approximately \$190 per week.

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

Daily Bread Inc

815 E. Fee Ave, Melbourne, FL



FREE hot meals are served 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., 7 days a week.

JOY Lutheran Church Team

Serves meals the 4th Friday of each month.

Please contact Chris Allebaugh (321-388-2555) if you can help. Thanks to each of you for your support of this ministry. Please remember DAILY BREAD depends on volunteers.

Volunteers are needed for dining hall, outreach center, and warehouse. Help is needed 7 days a week.

Fellowship Committee

The Fellowship Committee meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Our next meeting will be March 14, 2023, at 11:30am.

If you would like to learn more about this committee, please join us on Wednesday.

You can contact Barbara Herndon if you have any questions.

Men of JOY

We continue to meet for breakfast on the first Saturday of each month. Come and join us. A specific announcement will be made on the prior Sunday morning. We also send out an email about the breakfasts and other meetings. If you have not received it over the past several months, please see Jim Collins to give him your email address. If you do not have email, let Jim know you are interested, and he will call you.

JOY 2023 CHURCH COUNCIL



Worship and Music

As we begin our Lenten Journey there are a couple of things I wanted to let you know.

We will again collect Socks for Maundy Thursday, which will be donated to Daily Bread. The basket will be put out beginning on Palm Sunday, April 2nd. They can be new or slightly used. They are all appreciated by Daily Bread.

We will be putting 2 palm trees on the Altar this year for the Palm Sunday Service. If anyone needs a new tree and would like to donate one, please let me know. I will purchase the tree and bring it to the church. I can also deliver it to your home afterward if needed. They normally cost \$20-25.

I will have a sign-up sheet for Easter Lilies out by March 19th. I do not have the cost yet but should be around \$10.00.

I just wanted to mention if you have an interest in getting involved in any of our JOY committee please let myself or the committee chair know. We would all love some fresh faces on our teams.

Depending on your interests we have The Men's Group, Property Committee, WELCA, Knitters/Quilter's, Social Ministry, Daily Bread Services, Fellowship, Worship and Music and Altar Guild. We need Assistant Ministers, Screen Operators, Ushers, Greeters and Communion Assistants. We all have a fun time as we service JOY and our community!

Chris Allebaugh

Did You Know?

The question often comes up, "Can there be artificial flowers on or around the altar?" Can there be? Sure. Should there be? That's another question.

Per the Lutheran "Altar Guild Handbook," (S. Anita Stauffer, Fortress Press), "because flowers are used for their symbolism of life, joy, and human frailty, artificial flowers have no purpose and no place in the worship space. (Artificial flowers are not 'alive,' nor do they wilt."

Therefore, since this is our general rubric, why do we see them used more often in congregations nowadays? Simple. It comes down to economics. Congregations are trying to find ways to save money. When it comes down to funding a program to feed hungry people or a program to keep fresh roses on the altar, which program seems most essential? Maybe, most faithful?

How congregations answer such questions will direct where the money goes. It will also direct how closely congregations will adhere to the "flower rubric."

JDB+

Lenten Supper Schedule

Date	Committee Hosting
March 1st	Fellowship Committee
March 8th	Men's Group/Property
March 15th	Worship and Music
March 22nd	Church Council
March 29th	WELCA

The suppers will begin at 5:30 followed by the Lenten Service at 6:00.

Property Committee

The Property Committee held a meeting on Friday February 8th, 2023. Attendance: Ken Laumer, James Collins Gary Sherman, and Erik Maenpaa.

The Committee reviewed the current projects:

- * The painting and remodeling of the ladies and men's restrooms is continuing with the painting having been completed in the lady's restroom. The men's restroom will be painted in the next two weeks. Once the painting is completed we will work on the replacement of the counter tops. The following rooms will need to be painted; Wollom-Jackson room the kitchen and the Narthex.
- * We will be having Calvary Church come and add stones to the garden around the church building and remove some of the older bushes from the gardens. They will also power wash the parking lot and the portico.
- * The plan to reorganize and clean the large shed is planned for one Saturday in March. We will ask the Cub Scouts and Boys Scouts to give us a hand.

On Friday February 10th. And Saturday February 11th. A funeral was conducted at the church. The service was conducted for a non-member and JOY was only involved in renting the space for the funeral. The people who contacted JOY at the last minute requested to use the space. The rental fee charged for the family was \$300.00. This will provide JOY with additional revenue stream with little additional work for our staff or members. A fee schedule has been developed and approved by the Council. We may wish to expand on this and start advertising our facility to local funeral homes.

A brief discussion was held concerning the plan to look into retention of church files and documents. The Property Committee will assist the various committees of the church in getting this done. Two years ago, before Covid, we started on the road of moving from paper-based documentation to digital cloud-based program. Thanks to Covid, this program was placed on back burner. Now that we are no longer dealing with Covid, we are once again moving forward with this project. JOY currently has a non-profit free Microsoft Office 365 license with up to 100 licenses available. Some of our officers and members have been issued a license.

Our plan is to:

- Move all church electronic communications to Microsoft Outlook email system with all officers, committee chairs and council members having a JOY email on the system. (This email address is not based on names of individual, but positions. Once the individual leaves office, the email address can be moved to the next person assuming this position. This will allow us to maintain a record/history of our communications)
- Have all meeting minutes saved electronically in the cloud eliminating the need to maintain paper files.
- All emails will need to be sent using a BCC in the send to instead of individual email addresses.
- Shaun Arner will train Erik and James Collins, who will train the officers, council, and committee chairs.

In conjunction with the new meeting reports and minutes being stored in the cloud; reports and minutes from previous years will also be digitized and saved in the cloud.

Erik U. Mäenpää



JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 4 - WELCA Pancake Breakfast & WELCA meeting

March 5 - Bold Women Sunday

March 11 - Men of JOY Yard Sale

March 16 - Young at Heart Meets @ 12:00, every 3rd Thursday of the month.

March 25 - Advent Lutheran Church hosting Women's Retreat

March 29 – WELCA hosting Lenten Supper

CIRCLE MEETINGS

Eve Circle (Bible Study) – Bible Study 3rd Tuesday, March 21st @ 11:30 a.m.

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

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

Ruth Circle (crafts) – 1st Monday, March 6th @ 10:00 a.m.

A big **thank you** to our quilters who made and packed up 60 quilts & 52 backpacks/school bags for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Collection in February.

DAILY BREAD hygiene kits. The ladies of Rachel Circle packed & delivered 20 hygiene kits to Daily Bread in February. Pastor Norm Holm of Calvary Chapel and several members of our congregation contributed items for the kits.

Contributions are Very Welcome. Health kits are made up of; deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shaving cream, hair combs and brushes for women & men, razors for men & women, washcloths, chap stick or lip balm, fingernail clippers or nail file, sunscreen, gallon size zip lock bags, small (individual) hand sanitizer.

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 **April 2023 Tidings no later than March 27th.**

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

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



Coffee, Snack, and Cold Drink after Worship.

If you enjoy the "Coffee Fellowship," consider signing up to host a Sunday. The signup sheet is in the narthex.

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 if you have been hospitalized.

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



We especially pray for Friends, Family, and Members of Joy.

WHO ARE:

- Suffering the loss of a loved one.
- Suffering from pain or illness.
- Suffering from depression or loneliness.
- Recovering from illness or surgery.

Lord, look upon those in need with eyes of mercy. May Your healing hand rest upon them, may Your life-giving powers flow into every cell of their body and into the depths of their soul, cleansing, purifying, restoring them to wholeness and strength for service in Your Kingdom. Amen.

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

2023 Church Council

Pastor: Rev. John David Bryant

President: Barbara Herndon

Vice President: Mary Sherman

Secretary: Kelly Arner

Treasurer: Kim Tolley

Financial Secretary:

Council Members at Large:

Chris Allebaugh

Sue Getter

Renee Harper

Tom Hennessy

Linda Kratzer

Erik Mäenpää



March Birthday Blessings

- 3/02 Gene Sorensen
- 3/05 Tamara Embrey
- 3/08 Mark Motluck
- 3/13 Emmanouill Manoussakis
- 3/15 Ken Laumer
- 3/20 Zechariah Bush
- 3/21 Lois Manaseri
- 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 **\$25.00** 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 **\$30.00 for the month.**

MARCH 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting 5:30pm Soup & Sandwiches 6:00pm Lenten Service		8:30am Property Workday	Men of Joy Breakfast (Contact Jim Collins) 8:00am Pancake Breakfast 10:00am WELCA Meeting
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10:00am Worship	10:00am Ruth Circle Crafts	10:00am Dorcas Circle Quilting	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting 5:30pm Soup & Sandwiches 6:00pm Lenten Service		8:30am Property Workday	
Daylight Saving Time Begins	12	13	14	15	16	17
10:00am Worship		10:00am Dorcas Circle Quilting 11:30am Fellowship Meeting	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting 5:30pm Soup & Sandwiches 6:00pm Lenten Service 7pm Council Mtg	12pm Young at Heart	8:30am Property Workday	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10:00am Worship		10:00am Dorcas Circle Quilting 11:30am Eve Circle Bible Study	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting 5:30pm Soup & Sandwiches 6:00pm Lenten Service		8:30am Property Workday 10:30am-1:00pm Daily Bread Team	
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
10:00am Worship		10:00am Dorcas Circle Quilting	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting 5:30pm Soup & Sandwiches 6:00pm Lenten Service		8:30am Property Workday	<i>Check website & messages from Pastor Bryant for changes in schedule.</i>