



Tidings of Joy



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

Volume 39, Issue 9

3174 Jupiter Blvd. SE – Palm Bay, FL 32909

September 2023

Staff

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

Worship Time(s):

Sunday

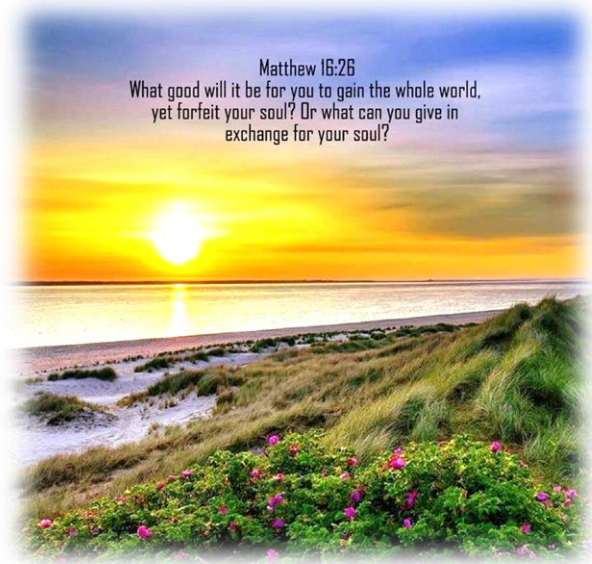
Traditional Worship Service
10:00a.m.

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



Matthew 16:26
What good will it be for you to gain the whole world,
yet forfeit your soul? Or what can you give in
exchange for your soul?

“I have held many things in my hands,
and I have lost them all. But whatever I
have placed in God's hands, that I still
possess.” - *Martin Luther*



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

Dear Friends,

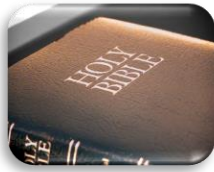
September is here and soon days will shorten; we are turning towards the end of the Church Year. Sunday readings will increasingly point to the Last Day---when our Lord will return as victorious, righteous Judge. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus says, *"For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man."* (Matthew 24:37-39)

The Last Day will arrive unexpectedly, and then the Judgment will begin. St. Paul issues a warning, "For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil." (2 Corinthians 5:10) The Last Day is inescapable. Faced with this reality, the Evil One works to deceive you into believing that you are not God's child, that you are sinful behold hope, that you are a failure. The Evil One works to keep you in hell-on-earth by keeping you in a place of never knowing whether you are a Christian, whether you are saved.

In this hell-on-earth, nights grow long, light fades, and we feel as if time for us is running out. Despair and anxiety cause us to forget what Jesus says in John 15:3, *"You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you."* Jesus doesn't say that you will be clean after you get your act together or have become uber-pious. Jesus says you are already clean. It's a done deal. Because of Jesus' suffering, dying, and rising from the grave, your sin has been handled. All of it. And in the waters of your baptism, you were connected to Christ. Galatians 3:27 reminds us, "As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ." When the Word of God was spoken over you with the water, you were dressed in the righteousness of Jesus. When God the Father sees you, the Father sees the holiness of Jesus.

Cling to this truth when the Evil One whispers or shouts doubts in your direction. Days will come when you stumble into sin. Days will come when you don't "feel" like God's child. On those days, the Evil One will work to cause you to doubt your connection to Christ. On those days, remind yourselves that, "You are already clean (justified, saved, redeemed, bought, sought, marked, and claimed)," says Jesus, "because of the Word which I have spoken to you," and celebrate how your bond with Christ Jesus, the Devil will never sever. Look to Jesus, claim the promise, and know that you are God's chosen, beloved child. This is your day-to-day reality. It's as true on your first day as it will be on your Last.

Peace---JDB+



Gospel Readings

Lectionary "A" for September

September 3	Matthew 16:21-28
September 10	Matthew 18:15-20
September 17	Matthew 18:21-35
September 24	Matthew 20:1-16



Next meeting:
September 20th at 7:00pm



Every Sunday morning 8:30 AM.

Adult Forum on the Sunday Readings. Don't miss out, we would love to have you join us.

Linda Carol Poppe

Fall 2023: "Holy Places" A three-session Bible study by the Rev. Dr. Meghan Johnston Aelabouni



Session #1 – Eve Circle meets Tuesday, September 19 @ 11:30

Physical places often shape our identities, relationships, and faith. "Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it," Paul writes. Part of what this means is that faith doesn't just reside in our thoughts or emotions. Faith resides in our whole bodies, and how our bodies "live and move and have our being" in the sacred places where God encounters us.

September 2023 Holy places: Home

Home can be the place we lay our head and the people we call family. Home can be our community or homeland. Home is also found wherever we truly and fully belong. This month, we consider the complexity and the promise of "home" through the stories of Israel's exile, the ministry of Jesus, and the promises of Revelation.

Fellowship Committee

The Fellowship Committee meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month. Our next meeting will be September 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.

Did You Know?

Did you know...

Martin Luther used profanity, especially when targeting rivals. Perhaps Luther's favorite targets were Erasmus and Zwingli, although Pope Leo X and Schwenkfeld both ranked high on Luther's list. Luther and Erasmus had words over the concept of *free-will*, something Lutherans neither believe nor teach. For Luther, the will inclines towards evil. For Erasmus, the will has choices to make. Luther so completely disagreed with Erasmus on the matter that their debate gave birth to Luther's *Bondage of the Will*. Luther believed that the only direction towards which the human will is oriented, inclines towards evil. For this reason, a rather common confession used in Lutheran worship resources begins, "we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves." Because Erasmus, had he been given the opportunity, might've worded that confession something like, "we confess that we have chosen sin willfully rather than chosen what is right," Luther called Erasmus, "the vilest miscreant that ever disgraced the earth," and went on to say, "Whenever I pray, I pray for a curse upon Erasmus." (Luther's quotes are from *Table Talk*)

A Stewardship Moment

One of the criteria for defining a healthy church is how well the congregation financially supports the vision and dreams of the church.

What can we do as we begin our next 40 years and more? Working together, moving forward, Joy's ministry will be sustained with abundant generosity. Together, moving forward in faith, we continue our ministry at Joy Lutheran Church!

While stewardship does indeed involve giving away money, it is more than philanthropy. Just as Christians are called to worship in community, participate in Eucharist, serve the poor and needy in the wider world, and share the Gospel with others, they are called to be good stewards, to thank God by giving back a portion of what God has given to us. Time, talent, and treasure are the three ways we can display our gratitude.

As Christians, each of us is called to be a good steward of the gifts that God has entrusted to our care. Part of our call, our vocation, involves putting those gifts to work to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ. We can do that through our stewardship.

"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."
Hebrews 13:16

David Steinhorst
Stewardship Ministry

Come Celebrate 40 years of JOY!



- ✝ On September 11, 1983, the first church service of what was then called “Community Evangelical Lutheran Church,” was held in the library of Lockmar Elementary School. Pastor Charles Schmitz presided at the worship. Other Lutheran clergy presided at the worship services on following Sundays.
- ✝ On January 22, 1984, the name was changed to JOY Lutheran.
- ✝ The organization service was held on Palm Sunday, April 15, 1985.
- ✝ The first worship service in our current building was held on July 5, 1987.

Join us on September 10th and learn more about the growth of JOY. Enjoy looking through old pictures and memorabilia. Enjoy fellowship time, share stories, and learn more about JOY, and of course there will be Cake!

Come Share the JOY!
Chris Allebaugh

Frequently Asked Questions

How can we celebrate congregational anniversaries within worship?

Christian celebrations of anniversaries (baptism, ordination, marriage, or congregational) are occasions for thanksgiving for past blessings that God has given, increasing awareness of what God is doing in the present, and hopeful expectation for what God will do in the future.

Copyright © 2018 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. www.elca.org/worshipfaq.



JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sept. 21, 2023, Young at Heart - 12pm.
Oct. 7, 2023, 8:00 to 9:30 Pancake Breakfast
Oct. 7, 2023, 10:00 WELCA meeting
Nov. 4, 2023, HOLIDAY FESTIVAL AND SILENT BASKET AUCTION
Nov. 10-12 WELCA FL-BAHAMAS FALL GATHERING @ Methodist
Conference Center, Fruitland Park, FL

CIRCLE MEETINGS

Eve Circle (Bible Study) – Bible Study 3rd Tuesday @ 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 @ 10:00 a.m. or check with RuthAnn



DAILY BREAD hygiene kits: Good News! Another **20 hygiene kits** were delivered to Daily Bread in August. We appreciate everyone's help in this project and especially Ruth Holm's son, Pr. Norm Holm of Calvary Chapel for his contributions. The ladies of Rachel Circle put kits together and deliver them to Daily Bread where they are happily received. If you would like to contribute, items needed are deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shaving cream, hair combs and brushes for women & men, razors for men & women, washcloths, chapstick or lip balm, fingernail clippers or nail file, sunscreen, gallon size zip lock bags.



Holiday Festival Fundraiser (craft sale and silent auction): Vendor spaces will be inside and outside the church under canopies. Baskets for Silent Auction will be on display Oct. 1 thru Nov 3. Get your bids in.



Don't forget WELCA meeting on Oct. 7 (after pancake breakfast). All ladies are invited.

Register Today for the 2023 Women of the ELCA Fall Gathering

Holy Ground - God Still Speaks

November 10-12, 2023

Warren Willis United Methodist Conference Center, Fruitland Park



Did you spend time at church camp when you were young? Do you remember camp songs and crafts? Join the Florida-Bahamas Women of the ELCA at our Fall Gathering where we will celebrate Holy Ground and discover how God still speaks to us.

Our gathering will be in a NEW LOCATION - The Warren Willis United Methodist Conference Center located at 4991 Picciola Road, Fruitland Park. You'll see that this retreat center has beautiful grounds and great spaces for us.

Worship will be led by Trixie Richter and Bible Study will be led by Michelle Collins! It's going to be a wonderful time of fellowship, worship, learning, singing, and even eating s'mores! So, visit the 2023 Fall Gathering page at www.flwelca.com to learn more about this year's workshops, scholarship opportunities, and registration options.

REGISTRATION OPTION 1:

Download, email, and mail the writable PDF registration forms or email to our conference registrar, Diane Cummings. These forms can also be printed and shared electronically with friends in your congregation and conference.

Diane Cummings 1360 N. Marcy Drive Longwood, FL 32750 (407) 767-9346 after 4:00 pm E-mail: sworegistrar1@gmail.com

REGISTRATION OPTION 2:

You can register online or access forms to download and mail by visiting www.flwelca.com

FRIENDSHIP TEA PARTY

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
105 W. Hibiscus Blvd.
Melbourne



Bring
your
favorite
tea cup

September 9, 2023
2:00pm – 4:00pm

Tea,
food, fun &
fellowship

RSVP by September 1, 2023

jljodoin@att.net

Home: (321) 729-9659

Cell: (321) 474-0562

Stewardship Quip:

A 100-dollar bill, a 20-dollar bill, and a one-dollar bill meet up at the shredder at the end of their lives. The 100 says, "I've seen the whole world during my lifetime. Why, I've been on cruises in Caribbean, safaris in Africa, and vacations in Europe." The 20 says, "Well, I've not done quite as well, but I have been to Atlantic City, Disneyland, and Starbucks." They both turn to the one-dollar bill and ask, "How about you?" The one, not wanting to be outdone, says, "I've seen the whole country as well. I've been from church to church to church..." Then the 100 asked, "What's a church?"



Daily Bread Inc
815 E. Fee Ave, Melbourne, FL

Hunger, homelessness, and poverty know no color, race, gender, or age. At Daily Bread, we ensure that no one in Brevard County faces hunger or homelessness alone. Everyone is welcome at Daily Bread.

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 needed 7 days a week.

Men of JOY

The Men of JOY held a business meeting in early August after the WELCA breakfast and took the following actions:

- ✠ We voted to donate one thousand dollars toward the cost of the new mower.
- ✠ We voted to donate two new chairs to the pastor's office for guests.

We also agreed to hold a "Special Yard Sale" on Saturday, October 14th to sell the items that a friend of the congregation generously donated to us from her downsizing move. Given the large number of items, this should help replenish our Men of JOY account which now stands at about \$1,200.

We continue to gather on the first Saturday of each month for breakfast social at 9:00 a.m. at Sunshine Café. If you haven't had a chance to join us for some time together away from church, by all means do so on Saturday, September 2nd.

Jim Collins, Recording Secretary
Gary Krause, President



Open to serving? Wondering where you can serve? Like serving in the background? Want to give an hour or so 2 Sundays a month? Wish you could tithe at a higher level but have more of a willing heart than a flush cash flow? Are you a man who'd love to do it, but thinks it's only for women? Are you a visitor who is willing to serve yet fears membership prohibits service?

Then, do I ever have an opportunity for you! Altar Guild!

We need you. Some of our altar guild members have stepped back due to advanced age or life challenges, others due to accessibility issues in the chancel area, and others have died. Our merry band of loving leaders has dwindled in number. Could God be inviting you to step up? To add to our number?

Summer is the best time to learn. How come? Because attendance is generally lower due to travels. Because there are fewer festival Sundays and feast day services, e.g., Christmas Eve. And because our attitude is generally more casual due to the bright skies, warm weather, and constant flow of visitors. It's a great time to learn.

Think prayerfully about this opportunity. Christ is counting on you.

If you desire to explore this further, reach out to Mary Ann Jones maryannjones369@gmail.com , or Linda Collins lcollins7@cfl.rr.com . These fine folks will show you the ropes.

Thank you Members of Joy and Friends!

We have had a great response for all the members and friends when bidding on the 5 silent auction quilts that have been made by the Dorcas Quilting Circle during the year. Each year as we quilt along and make the quilts that will be sent to Lutheran World Relief to be distributed to foreign countries, we select 5 quilts that we feel have been done exceptionally well and put them in the Silent Auction. The proceeds of the sale will go towards the fabric, sheets (for backing) and most importantly, for the batting. The batting costs approximately \$170 a roll and we will get about 20 quilts per roll. We will use between 4-5 rolls per year in order to complete the 70-80 quilts. That can be a big expense for Dorcas Circle so the funds we collect during the Silent Auction help to offset that expense.

We are fast approaching the Craft Sale and Silent Auction and I am excited to say, we have some awesome quilts! The Silent Auction will start at the beginning of October and continue until the November Craft show. So, get your pencils ready and bid!



JOY Lutheran Holiday Craft Show

Saturday November 4th. 9 AM - 2 PM

JOY Lutheran Church 3174 Jupiter Blvd., S.E.
Palm Bay, FL 32909

CRAFTERS WANTED

Contact: Marjorie

marjorie.maenpaa@gmail.com

(321)327-8400

Holiday Crafts
&
Silent Auction

Food
&
Bake Sale

Property Committee

The kitchen painting has been completed and the first half of the Wollom-Jackson room was also painted. The interior painting of the church will be completed by the end of September.

The Council approved the purchases of a new zero turn riding mower to replace one of the current older mowers. The new mower will allow us to cut the grass more efficiently requiring less in service and repairs.

The Boys Scouts will complete the mulching of the playground in the new few weeks as the temperatures will start to moderate. This will complete the planned improvements to the playground.

The central air-conditioning unit used for the office, the quilting and knitting room and the Wollom-Jackson Room has not been working and it is in need of service. The technicians were in last week to service the unit, but they were unable to repair it. We will have to have the technicians back to get the system serviced. The Wollom-Jackson Room is not being cooled at this time as the mini split unit is also not working at this time.

Erik U. Mäenpää

NEW ZERO TURN RIDING MOWER



Young at Heart

Young at Heart will be meeting on **September 21st at noon**. All are welcome, especially those 55 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 a Lima been auction. 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.

Thanks for The Prayers & Condolences

Thanks to all the members of JOY who have comforted me in the past year or two as my mother's health declined. As you probably heard, Phyllis Foreman passed on to be with our Lord on August 17th. As I'm writing this, I'm preparing to go to Indianapolis to join with my family for her funeral. She lived into her 90's and was reasonably active into her late 80's with a noticeable decline after my father passed away last year. My parents were good, hardworking people who raised five children and were very active in their Lutheran congregation in Indianapolis. I miss them both deeply, but they remain in my heart and live on with our Lord in heaven.

Linda Sue Collins

WELCOME to JOY!

Scan the QR code for important links.
JOY Lutheran Guest wifi:
password -welcome2joy



- + Visitor Information
- + Digital Giving
- + Prayer Requests
- + JOY website



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 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.

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

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 **October 2023 Tidings no later than September 26th.**

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

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



September Birthday Blessings

- 09/05 Haley Herndon
- 09/10 Barbara Sparks
- 09/13 Erik Maenpaa
- 09/22 Dennis Baudek
- 09/23 Arno Kuehnhold
- 09/27 Donna Burdick

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.**

Joy Financials

GENERAL FUND	1st QTR	2nd QTR	January thru June
Income (pledged)	\$32,929.02	\$22,112.63	\$55,041.65
Income (unpledged)	\$7,675.26	\$12,546.00	\$20,221.26
Income - Total	\$40,604.28	\$34,658.63	\$75,262.91
Expenses	\$34,691.36	\$39,939.71	\$74,631.07
Overage/(Shortage)	\$5,912.92	(\$5,281.08)	\$631.84
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	1st QTR	2nd QTR	Year to Date
Income (pledged)	\$1,306.20	\$1,551.75	\$2,857.95
Income (unpledged)	\$445.00	\$140.00	\$585.00
Income - Total	\$1,751.20	\$1,691.75	\$3,442.95
Expenses	\$967.00	\$824.37	\$1,791.37
Overage/(Shortage)	\$784.20	\$867.38	\$1,651.58

SEPTEMBER 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<i>Check website & messages from Pastor Bryant for changes in schedule.</i>					8:30am Property Workday	
3	Labor Day 4	5	6	7	8	9
8:30am Adult Forum on Sunday's Readings 10:00am Worship	10:00am Ruth Circle Crafts	10:00am Dorcas Circle Quilting	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting		8:30am Property Workday	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:30am Adult Forum on Sunday's Readings 10:00am Worship <i>40th Anniversary</i>		10:00am Dorcas Circle Quilting	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting 7pm Council Mtg	11:30am Fellowship Meeting	8:30am Property Workday	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8:30am Adult Forum on Sunday's Readings 10:00am Worship		10:00am Dorcas Circle Quilting 11:30am Eve Circle Bible Study	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting 7pm Council Mtg	12pm Young at Heart	8:30am Property Workday 10:30am-1:00pm Daily Bread Team	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
8:30am Adult Forum on Sunday's Readings 10:00am Worship		10:00am Dorcas Circle Quilting	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting		8:30am Property Workday	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9