



# Tidings of Joy



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

Volume 39, Issue 11

3174 Jupiter Blvd. SE – Palm Bay, FL 32909

November 2023

## Staff

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

## Worship Time(s):

### Sunday

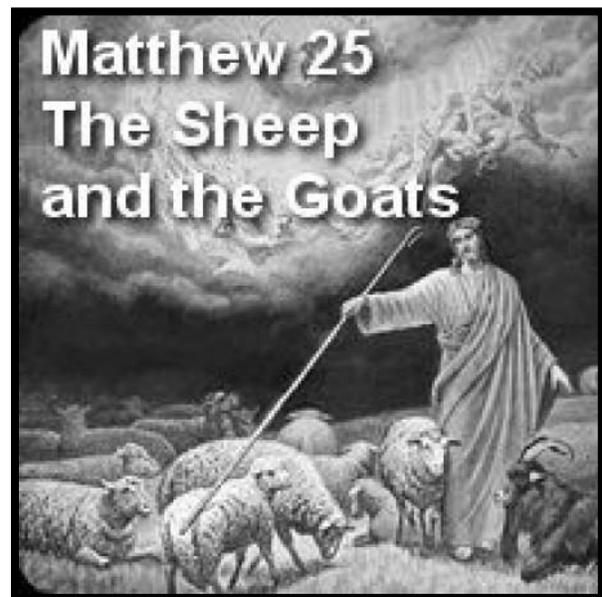
Traditional Worship Service  
10:00a.m.

**Church Office Phone:**  
321-951-0166

**Pastor’s Email Address:**  
[pjldbryant4tide@gmail.com](mailto:pjldbryant4tide@gmail.com)

**Church Email Address:**  
[joylutheranpb@gmail.com](mailto:joylutheranpb@gmail.com)

**Church Web Site:**  
[www.joylutheranelca.com](http://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 [pjldbryant4tide@gmail.com](mailto:pjldbryant4tide@gmail.com)."

## Pastor's Point

Pr. John David Bryant

Friends, someone asked me, quite recently, what do Lutherans think about the Holy Spirit? My teasing remark was, "Often, we don't."

In Luther's Small Catechism, we read, *"I believe that by my own understanding or strength I cannot believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him, but instead the Holy Spirit has called me through the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, made me holy and kept me in the true faith, just as he calls, gathers, enlightens, and makes holy the whole Christian church on earth and keeps it with Christ in the one common true faith. Daily in this Christian church the Holy Spirit abundantly forgives all sins – mine and those of all believers. On the last day, the Holy Spirit will raise me and all the dead and will give me and all believers eternal life. This is most certainly true."*

Luther says distinct things about the Spirit:

### ***"I believe...I cannot believe."***

It sounds paradoxical, but we trust that God saves us and calls us to faith. Faith is God's gift to us. Faith is not something we manufacture. It is not being "spiritual but not religious," nor extreme piety. Faith is relationship in God which the Spirit invites and empowers us to share. (John 14:1-31)

### ***"Called"***

Faith comes to us. And though we are experiential beings, the Spirit specifically calls us to faith "through the gospel" – the good news of Jesus Christ in his life, death, and resurrection. The Spirit empowers us to "follow" the pattern of Jesus: live, die, and rise. Luther explains how the gospel is given to us in God's word of forgiveness, holy baptism, holy communion, confession, forgiveness, and the mutual consolation of believers, 'where two or three are gathered' (Matthew 18:20).

### ***"Gathered"***

The Spirit gathers us into community, the Church. The Church, per Luther, is a "["mouth house"](#) where we hear God's word and live it, reflect on it, cultivate it, nurture it, and are changed by it.

### ***"Enlightened me with his gifts"***

The Spirit gives us gifts for ministry; each of us is called, gathered, and enlightened for faithful service. In 1 Corinthians 12, Romans 12, and Ephesians 4, you see gifts given to the body of Christ. Galatians 5:22-23 says the Spirit produces in us, "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things."

### ***"Made me holy (or sanctified)"***

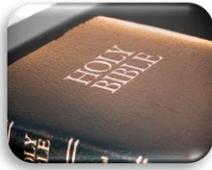
2 Corinthians 3:6 says, "The letter kills, the Spirit gives life." To be holy is to have life, the life of Christ – but we must die to ourselves to be raised. The Spirit kills us under the law and raises us to new life in Christ through the gospel. Holiness, set-apartness, results from the Spirit who gives life.

### ***"Kept me with Jesus Christ in the one true faith"***

The Spirit keeps us connected to Jesus as we go out and serve. The Spirit does this by keeping us connected to each other and God's word. Luther says in the Large Catechism, "Therefore we believe in him who daily brings us into this community through the same word and the forgiveness of sins. Then when his work has been finished and we abide in it, having died to the world and all misfortune, he will finally make us perfectly and eternally holy. Now we wait in faith for this to be accomplished through the word."

Ultimately the Spirit's role among us is to reveal Jesus. Whenever you see the business of calling, gathering, enlightening, sanctifying, and creating new life in Christ, you are seeing the handiwork of the Holy Spirit. And since we see these things in our midst, we Lutherans can think about the Spirit, and talk about the Spirit, too.

Peace,  
JDB+



## Gospel Readings

### Lectionary "A" for November

November 5	Matthew 23:1-12
November 12	Matthew 25:1-13
November 19	Matthew 25:14-30
November 26	Matthew 25:31-46



Next meeting:  
November 15th at 7:00pm

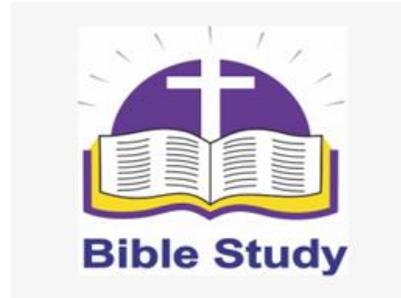


Every Sunday morning 8:30 AM.

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 #3 – Eve Circle meets**  
**Tuesday November 21 @ 11:30**

Holy places: Pilgrimage

Pilgrimage, a journey to a sacred place, is a spiritual practice with a long history in Christianity (and many other religions). In the Bible, pilgrimage is not only about the destination, but also about the "holy place" of the journey itself. Considering the journey of the Magi, the walk to Emmaus, and Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem, we'll ponder how pilgrimage can inspire, challenge and transform our faith and our lives.

### **Fellowship Committee**

The Fellowship Committee meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month. Our next meeting will be November 9, 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....

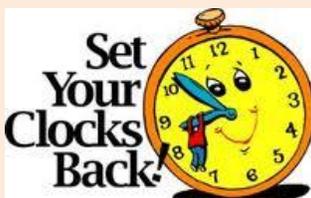
Lutherans believe and teach that Jesus seeks us, not the reverse. In 1522, on the First Sunday in Advent, Martin Luther preached:

*"I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." (Revelation 3:20)*

He comes, comes unto you. Yea, verily, you go not to Him, neither do you fetch Him. He is too high for you, and too far away. All your wealth and wit, your toil and labor, will not bring you near Him, lest you pride yourself that your merit and worthiness have brought Him unto you. Dear friend, all your merit and worthiness are smitten down, and there is on your side nothing but sheer undeserving and unworthiness, and on His side is pure grace and mercy. Here comes together humanity in our poverty and the Lord in His unsearchable riches.

Therefore, learn here from the Gospel what happens when God begins to build us into the likeness of Him, and what is the beginning of saintliness. There is no other beginning than that your king comes unto you and begins the work in you. You do not seek Him, He seeks you; you do not find Him, He finds you; your faith comes from Him, not from yourself, and where He does not come, you must stay outside; and where there is no Gospel, there is no God, but sheer sin and destruction. Therefore, ask not where to begin a godly life; there is no beginning but where this king comes and is proclaimed."

**Daylight Savings  
Time Ends  
NOVEMBER 5th.**



Welcome our newest members!  
Mike and Ruth Pettigrew.



## 2023 Conference on Ministry

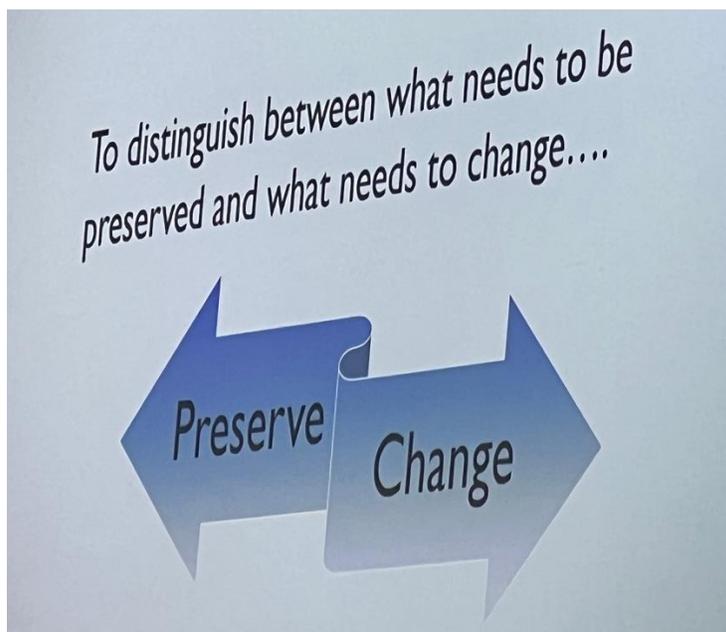
Conference on Ministry (COM) is one of the two required annual meetings for Florida-Bahamas Synod clergy (the other is Synod Assembly). And I deeply thank you for your generous support in sending me each year, although I do whine about its long meetings.

Typically held in Autumn, COM lasts for 2-3 days. Clergy gather and compare stories, receive reports from our bishop, celebrate Holy Communion, and often renew our ordination vows. A large part of our time together is spent in learning sessions led by a keynote speaker. This year's keynote speaker was [Tod Bolsinger](#), a Fuller Seminary vice-president, who authored the popular leadership text, [Canoeing the Mountains](#).

Tod spent three hours in sessions as we explored together the challenges that face all congregations in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. One of the things that Tod pondered with us was how, these days, things are less a matter of people being change resistant and more a matter of people being loss resistant. If you'd like to ponder that topic, [click this hyperlink](#) to view Tod making the same presentation in a different venue.

Tod also spoke about how leaders develop tempered resilience in a time of great change. In that session, Tod reminded us of a rather sobering quote from Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient Eric Hoffer, "in times of great change, learners inherit the earth, while the learned find themselves beautifully equipped for a world that no longer exists." If you'd like to join the pondering around that conversation, [click here](#).

I think the culmination of Tod's sessions might be contained in a single slide that calls us to ask ourselves, "what needs to be preserved and what needs to change?" It's a faithful thing to ponder, isn't it?





## JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Nov. 4, 2023, HOLIDAY FESTIVAL - CRAFTS AND SILENT BASKET AUCTION  
Nov. 10-12 WELCA FL-BAHAMAS FALL GATHERING @ Methodist Conference Center, Fruitland Park, FL  
Nov. 11, 2023, WELCA Meeting at 10:00am  
Nov. 16, 2023, Young at Heart @ 12:00pm  
Dec. 2, 2023, WELCA Christmas Luncheon 12:00pm @ Olive Garden

### 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 Ruth Ann



**DAILY BREAD hygiene kits:** Thank you for another 20 hygiene kits to Daily Bread in October. We appreciate everyone's help in this project and 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 in need. 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, wash cloths, chap stick or lip balm, fingernail clippers or nail file, sunscreen, gallon size zip lock bags.



November 4<sup>th</sup> - 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Holiday Festival Fundraiser (craft sale and silent auction): Vendors inside and outside the church. WELCA Craft table. Bake Sale. Hot dogs, chips & sodas. We are taking bids for Silent Auction. The end of the Silent Auction is 2:00pm on Nov. 4.



## **SERVE THE HOMELESS**

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.



### **WOMEN OF THE ELCA JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

#### ***Annual Christmas Luncheon***

**December 2, 2023  
12:00 p.m.**

**Olive Garden restaurant on  
HYW #192**

**Sign-up sheet in narthex**

## **Men of JOY**

The MoJ had a successful fundraising yard sale on Saturday, Oct 14, with the help of several of the men and women of the congregation. Many thanks to the eighteen Joy members who took part in moving, pricing, organizing, setting up, selling, and cleaning up – it was a great team effort over four days.

The final total received came to just over \$1000.00 which breaks our record from last spring by about \$200.

Thanks again to Linda's K's sister-in-law, Diana, for many of the items in our sale and to Linda K for helping us store the many boxes of items over the past several months. We didn't formally ask the congregation for donations since we already had so much in store, but thanks to the several members who brought items anyway.

Finally, thanks also to the many buyers who found some great deals at our sale. It was a lot of work, but it gives us funds for our projects in 2024.

If you are one of the men of the congregation, come and join in our social breakfasts and our projects for the congregation. We are also going to try to harvest some Thrivent action team funds in the coming year.

Gary Krause, President  
Jim Collins, Recording Secretary

### **A Few Words for The Wise**

"If your vines only yield sour grapes, don't share your wine with your neighbors."

*Jim Collins, Recording Secretary*

# 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 building thermostats have been set on a schedule taking into consideration the current usage of the facility. When setting the thermostats for cooling or heating, please follow the following guidelines:

1. To turn on the main air conditioners in the Sanctuary, please turn them on one at a time in thirty-minute intervals. This will prevent us from incurring on demand surcharge for the energy used by the units.
2. Make sure to use a temporary hold on the units for the time period you are using the facility. This will keep our energy usage lower as the units will return to the normal set schedule after the expiration of the temporary hold.

The damage from the termites in the large shed on the men's side turned out to be more extensive than the initial inspection indicated. The West side wall was opened up resulting in additional evidence of termite activity. The area has been treated and we will repair the wall where there was damage. This will require some lumber to be purchased to replace affected materials.

The organ continues to have some issues, and this is being addressed by our organist and the organ repair company.

The transition from the current G-mail (email) used by the staff, officers, council, and committee chairs to Outlook Email on Microsoft Office 365 will begin on December 1, 2023. The new email addresses for JOY Lutheran Church, Pastor Bryant, staff, officers, council members and committee chairs will be shared with Congregation Members as well as on web site and newsletter.

*Erik Mäenpää*

## STEWARDSHIP REMINDER

You are encouraged to bring your Stewardship Response Cards to worship on or before **November 5th**. You can also mail your response to the church. If you have misplaced your card, there will be cards (with pens) for you to fill one out on Sunday morning.

We are grateful for your commitment of time, talent, and treasure at Joy Lutheran Church. Your gifts are important to the congregation and the work that we do together.

## Young at Heart ❤️

Young at Heart will be meeting on **November 16<sup>th</sup> at noon**. All are welcome, especially those fifty-five and over. Invite your friends, relatives, and neighbors. Lunch will be a Thanksgiving Dinner.

Please check with *Marjorie Mäenpää* what you may need to bring to share.

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.



### 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.

## 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.

## WELCOME to JOY!

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



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

## 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 **December 2023 Tidings no later than November 28th.**

email David Steinhorst  
[dsteinhorst@cfl.rr.com](mailto: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



### November Birthday Blessings

11/01	Ed Baltzersen
11/05	Linden Strandberg
11/08	Dorothy Kirsch
11/13	Dudley Bowling
11/14	Caitlin Getter
11/14	Trent Thorman
11/18	Thelma Tucker
11/22	Connie Lampel
11/26	Joyce Ireland
11/27	Joy Christensen

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 + 2nd QTR	July & August	Year thru August
Income (pledged)	\$55,041.65	\$16,785.49	\$71,827.14
Income (unpledged)	\$20,221.26	\$5,090.76	\$25,312.02
<b>Income - Total</b>	\$75,262.91	\$21,876.25	\$97,139.16
Expenses	\$74,631.07	\$24,451.99	\$99,083.06
Overage/(Shortage)	\$631.84	(\$2,575.74)	(\$1,943.90)
<b>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS</b>			
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	1st + 2nd QTR	July & August	Year thru August
Income (pledged)	\$2,857.95	\$852.04	\$2,857.95
Income (unpledged)	\$ 585.00	\$2,176.48	\$2,761.48
<b>Income - Total</b>	\$3,442.95	\$3,028.52	\$6,471.47
Expenses	\$1,791.37	\$8,076.76	\$9,868.13 **
Overage/(Shortage)	\$1,651.58	(\$5,048.24)	(\$3,396.66)

\*\* Council Approved a new riding Lawnmower. MOJ & WELCA each contributed \$1,000 towards the purchase.

## NOVEMBER 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting		8:30am Property Workday	9am-2pm Holiday Craft Show.
<b>All Saints Sunday 5</b>	6	7	8	9	10	<b>Veterans' Day 11</b>
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	11:30am Fellowship Meeting	8:30am Property Workday	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:30am Adult Forum on Sunday's Readings  10:00am Worship		10:00am Dorcas Circle Quilting	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting  7pm Council Mtg	12pm Young at Heart	8:30am Property Workday	
19	20	21	22	<b>Thanksgiving 23</b>	24	25
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		8:30am Property Workday  10:30am-1:00pm Daily Bread Team	
<b>Christ the King Sunday 26</b>	27	28	29	30	1	2
8:30am Adult Forum on Sunday's Readings  10:00am Worship		10:00am Dorcas Circle Quilting	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
						<b>Check website &amp; messages from Pastor Bryant for changes in schedule.</b>