



# Tidings of Joy

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



**Volume 42, Issue 1**

**3174 Jupiter Blvd. SE – Palm Bay, FL 32909**

**January 2026**

Bishop Pedro Suárez  
Pastor

Rev. Mary Marotte  
Interim Pastor

Steven K. Weiss  
Organist

Lois Manaseri  
Secretary

## **Worship Time(s):**

**Sunday**

Worship Service 10:00a.m.

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

***Interim Pastor's Email Address:***  
**TBD**

***Church Email Address:***  
joylutheranpb@gmail.com

***Church Web Site:***  
www.joylutheranelca.com

## **EPIPHANY** January 6, 2026



**January Office Hours:** Tuesday and Thursday 9am-4pm, and by appointment. It is strongly suggested to call ahead before dropping by. Best means to contact Pastor Mary Marotte is to email church office.

## **Message from Interim Pastor Mary Marcotte**

*For everything there is a season, and time for every matter under heaven:*

*A time to be born and a time to die;  
A time to plant, and a time to harvest that which is planted;  
A time to kill and a time to heal;  
A time to breakdown and a time to build up;  
A time to weep, and a time to laugh  
A time to mourn and a time to dance  
A time to throw away stones and a time to gather stones together.*

*Ecclesiastes 3:1-5*

It is a joy to join with you in the ministry of Joy Lutheran Church. Over the next weeks and months, we will get to know one another, but for now just a brief introduction. My husband, Greg and I live near Nevis, Minnesota in the heart of lake country. Our 2 adult sons and their families live nearby. We are blessed to have the opportunity to spend time with them as well as our 5 grandchildren on a regular basis. In 2015 we retired and have done interim ministry since then.

The text from Ecclesiastes 3: 1-5 is a text that speaks to times of life and change. Here at Joy Lutheran your congregation is experiencing a time of change. A time of meeting a new interim pastor, as well as looking to the future Joy Lutheran church.

Change can be challenging as well as life giving, change is what brings us together in this time. As we begin our time together, I pray we will encourage, support, and lift each other up in prayer as we work through the change in the life of this congregation. Please know my door is open if you wish to visit or if you prefer, I am a phone call away.

In closing, I am thankful to God and the people of Joy Lutheran for the opportunity to serve your congregation. I look forward to meeting all of you and being a partner in the ministry of Joy Lutheran Church. *“For everything there is a time.”*

In the Love and Peace of Jesus,  
Pastor Mary

## Message from Church Council President

As we say goodbye to Pastor Endruschat, we welcome, Pastor Mary Marotte. We wish Pastor Robert well. Remember, when God closes a door, he opens a window. Let's pray that a window opens in May, when Pastor Mary goes back to Minnesota. Maybe that window will be a prospective call. If not, we'll keep plugging away until one comes.

We have applied for a grant for a security system. The State of Florida was given federal funds to use for nonprofit groups to secure their buildings. The grant application was submitted the day before the deadline. Now we sit and wait.

The congregation annual meeting will be on February 8th right after worship service. If you are chair of a committee, please have your end of year reports to the office by January 15.

There are three openings on the Church Council. I have served as president for the past two years and feel we have a good strong, cohesive group. We would like to have three people volunteer for a two-year term. Please see our nominating committee, Sue Getter, Dot Kirsh, or myself.

We also have a member of our church family turning one hundred on January 18. Ruth Holmes will celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday. She is such an inspiration to all of us. Happy Birthday Ruth.

*Mary Sherman,*  
Church Council President

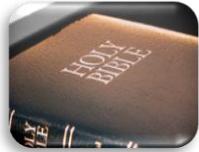


**February 8, 2026**  
**~11:30 a.m.**  
**Following the 10:00am Service.**

If you are the head of any committee, please have your reports into the church office by January 15th.

We are looking for members who are willing to serve on Church Council. This is a very important role as we look to finding a new minister to lead us. Consider prayerfully if this is a position you might be able to fill.

If you are interested, contact Sue Getter, Dot Kirsh, or Mary Sherman.



## Gospel Readings

### Lectionary "A" for January

January 4	Matthew 2:13-23
January 11	Matthew 3:13-17
January 18	John 1:29-42
January 25	Matthew 4:12-23



Next meeting:  
January 15th at 7:00pm

### Social Ministry

Our next meeting will be January 15, 2026, at 11:00am.

If you would like to learn more about this ministry, please join us on the 3rd Thursday of the month.

You can contact Marjorie Mäenpää if you have any questions.

**Boy Scout Fundraiser  
Pancake Breakfast**  
Sunday January 11th, 2026  
Following Sunday Service  
During Fellowship Hour.

## Pancake Breakfast

SPONSORED BY WELCA

**Saturday January 3rd, 2026**

8:00am - 9:30am



The cost is \$6.00. Proceeds will be used for projects as designated by the Joy Women of the ELCA.

**NOTE:** WELCA and "Men of Joy" both have meetings on Saturday following the Pancake Breakfast. So, come for the breakfast and then go to your meeting.

### Young at Heart

We will meet on **January 15th at noon**. All are welcome, especially those fifty-five and over. Invite your friends, relatives, and neighbors.

We always have a wonderful time getting to know each other. Please come out and join us.

### RUTH CIRCLE



WELCA Crafts meeting  
January 30, 2026 (Friday)  
@10:00a.m.

All ladies of JOY are welcome. If you have questions, contact Lois Manaseri.



## JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN



### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Jan. 3, 2026, Pancake Breakfast, 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., \$6.00  
Jan. 10, 2026, WELCA Meeting, following pancake breakfast  
Jan. 15 – 3rd Thursday of the month Young At Heart 12:00 Luncheon  
Jan, 20 - 3rd Tuesday of the month Bible Study, Gather magazine, 11:30 a.m. at church

### **CIRCLE MEETINGS**

Dorcas Circle (Quilting circle) - every Tuesday @ 10:00 a.m.  
Rachel Circle (knitting/crocheting circle) - every Wednesday @ 10:00 a.m.  
Ruth Circle (crafts) - last Friday of the month, check with Lois Manaseri.  
Eve Circle (Bible Study) – 3rd Tuesday of the month.

### **PROVIDENCE CONNECTS formerly known as DAILY BREAD:**

Mobile Hygiene Shower trucks are routinely scheduled at homeless camps & some church parking lots. Rachel Circle packed up twenty-five personal care kits for Providence Connects in December. Needed for Personal care kits: deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shaving cream, hair combs and brushes for women & men, razors for men & women, wash cloths, body soap, chap stick or lip balm, fingernail clippers, or nail files.

WELCA Circles delivered lap robes, prayer shawls, cell phone bags, miscellaneous items (lotions, etc.), and Christmas cards for residents at Brookdale and Life Care. Baby packages of onesie, baby blanket, etc. went to Pregnancy Essentials.

Jan. 3, 2026 is the next WELCA meeting and pancake breakfast. Election of officers and planning 2026 year events.



### **WELCA BIBLE STUDY January 20th @ 11:30 a.m.**

**Winter 2026: “Embodied prayer”  
by the Rev. Liv Larson Andrews:**

Prayer is an important part of our relationship with God, and one of the ways we respond to God speaking in our lives. At the same time, we may carry all kinds of baggage or heavy questions about prayer: Am I doing it “right?” Do I pray enough? Is prayer always done with words? This two-part Bible study looks to Scripture as a guide to explore some different ways we can pray with our bodies—and with the body of the earth. **(January) Session One: Praying with our bodies**

## **MEN OF JOY**

The Men of JOY topped off the year 2025 with a successful yard sale and made several donations:

- . Cash for disaster relief
- . Cash to assist with school supplies
- . A walk-behind mower for Property
- . Entrance sign frames at both drives onto the church property for use during events

We had a good turnout for our December breakfast social and hope to see many new faces at future breakfast outings in the new year. We normally meet on the first Saturday of each month.

A couple of items have been donated to us that we can pass along to members or friends of the church. One is a 3'x 6' bathroom mirror in good condition. The other is a re-conditioned, compact Dell personal computer, monitor, keyboard, and mouse. The latter has an Intel i7 processor, 16 Gigabytes of main memory, a 500 Gigabyte SSD and a DVD-RW drive. It has been scrubbed, reloaded and is ready to work. Please contact Jim Collins if you are interested. There is no charge for either item, but a donation to MoJ would be appreciated.

Come and join us in service and mutual support.

Men of JOY

## **PROPERTY TEAM**

Our re-lettering team finished refurbishing the faded memorial bricks, and they re-installed all of them before Christmas. Thanks to all who worked diligently on this project. In the longer term, we could use a Memorial Garden team (not committee) to keep everything ship shape. Aside from installing additional memorial bricks, pulling weeds, and changing failed light bulbs, this team would recommend improvements to make the garden even better. Please contact Jim Collins if you would like to work on this.

If you would like to help with fixing and improving JOY's physical infrastructure, come out on any Friday morning at 8:30 a.m. and see what we're up to. You could be a real help.

Jim Collins for the Property Team

Wishing Pastor Endruschat farewell following his final service with us,  
after 16 months as our interim pastor.



## **COFFEE FELLOWSHIP**



&



Please join us for Coffee, Snack, and Cold Drink after Worship.



## **“BREAD OF LIFE” BACKPACK PROGRAM”**

The “Bread of Life” backpack program for Turner Elementary School is a wonderful outreach to our community. We provide food for as many as ten families each weekend during the school year. The cost is approximately \$250 per week. This program is so important, especially with families barely making ends meet.

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

Have you made your financial pledge for 2026?

For us, as a congregation, to continue our mission of evangelism and outreach, we need everyone's support.

### ***Joy Financials***

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>First Qtr</b>	<b>Second Qtr</b>	<b>Third Qtr</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>
Income (pledged)	\$17,121.07	\$19,325.01	\$32,964.85	\$69,410.93
Income (unpledged)	\$10,238.70	\$10,065.05	\$8,312.40	\$28,616.15
Income (all other)	\$7,399.43	\$6,177.45	\$3,964.64	\$17,541.52
<b>Income - Total</b>	<b>\$34,759.20</b>	<b>\$35,567.51</b>	<b>\$45,241.89</b>	<b>\$115,568.60</b>
Expenses	(\$31,071.13)	(\$36,157.09)	(\$30,996.30)	(\$98,227.55)
Overage/(Shortage)	<b>\$3,713.28</b>	<b>(\$589.58)</b>	<b>\$14,245.59</b>	<b>\$17,341.05</b>
<b>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS</b>	<b>First Qtr</b>	<b>Second Qtr</b>	<b>Third Qtr</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>
Income (pledged)	\$173.11	0.00	\$4,725.29	\$4,896.43
Income (unpledged)	\$1,940.32	\$1,868.63	\$(2,666.06)	\$1,144.86
<b>Income - Total</b>	<b>\$2,113.43</b>	<b>\$1,868.63</b>	<b>\$2,059.23</b>	<b>\$6,041.29</b>
Expenses	(\$1,295.39)	(\$2,076.89)	(\$2,797.56)	(\$6,169.84)
Overage/(Shortage)	<b>\$818.04</b>	<b>(\$208.26)</b>	<b>(\$738.33)</b>	<b>(\$128.55)</b>

## 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 Mary Marotte 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

## 2025 Church Council

**Pastor, Interim:** Rev. Mary Marotte

**President:** Mary Sherman

**Vice President:** Bob Leonard

**Secretary:** Kelly Arner

**Treasurer:** Kim Tolley

**Financial Secretary:** Linda Kratzer

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

Lori Embrey

René Harper

Lois Manaseri

Mike Pettigrew



## January Birthday Blessings

01/01	Bill Evans
01/07	Violet Chin
01/17	Peggy Kemmerer
01/19	Ruth Holm
01/19	Jackie Mertens
01/22	Chad Arner
01/30	Haylee Tolley

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



Ushers and Greeters are needed to serve on Sundays. If you are able and willing, talk to Chris Allebaugh or Barbara Herndon and they will see to it that you are scheduled.



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"** (321) 768-7776.



## 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**.



## Communion Wine

If you would like to provide the **Communion Wine**, you may also sign up on the Flower Chart for the month you wish. The cost is **\$20.00 for the month**.

## JANUARY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
<i>Check website &amp; messages from Pastor Robert for changes</i>						8:00-9:30am Pancake Breakfast 9am Girl Scouts 10:00am WELCA Annual Meeting
4	5	<b>Epiphany 6</b>	7	8	9	10
10:00am Worship  1:00pm & 7:00pm The Melbourne Assembly of the Body of Christ	6:00pm Boy Scouts	10:00am Dorcas Circle Quilting  6:00pm Cub Scouts	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting	11:30am Fellowship Meeting  6:30pm Worship & Music	8:30am Property Workday  7:30pm The Melbourne Assembly of the Body of Christ	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
10:00am Worship  1:00pm & 7:00pm The Melbourne Assembly of the Body of Christ	6:00pm Boy Scouts	10:00am Dorcas Circle Quilting  6:00pm Cub Scouts	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting	11:00am Social Ministry Meeting  12:00pm Young at Heart  7:00pm Council Meeting	8:30am Property Workday  7:30pm The Melbourne Assembly of the Body of Christ	9am Girl Scouts
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
10:00am Worship  1:00pm & 7:00pm The Melbourne Assembly of the Body of Christ	6:00pm Boy Scouts	10:00am Dorcas Circle Quilting  11:30am Eve Circle Bible Study	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting		8:30am Property Workday  7:30pm Melbourne Assembly of the Body of Christ	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
10:00am Worship  1:00pm & 7:00pm The Melbourne Assembly of the Body of Christ	6:00pm Boy Scouts	10:00am Dorcas Circle Quilting	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting		8:30am Property Workday  7:30pm Melbourne Assembly of the Body of Christ	