



Tidings of Joy



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

Volume 36, Issue 2

3174 Jupiter Blvd. SE – Palm Bay, FL 32909

February 2020

Staff

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

Worship Times:

Sunday

10:00a.m. Worship Service
8:45a.m. Adult Sunday School
Children's Education Time
(During the Sermon)

Saturday February 29th

5:30p.m. Pilgrim Journey Band
(Prayer and Praise)

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



Lent Begins Ash Wednesday

February 26, 2020



"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 last week of month, when Friday is day off. Best means to contact pastor is 321-312-7339 or prjdbryant4tide@gmail.com."

Pastor's Corner

Pr. J. David Bryant

Friends,

Cartoonist, Dennis Fletcher, is widely known for using satire to point to realities of congregational life. By using humor, Dennis highlights common challenges to congregational ministry and mission. A common challenge for congregations is anxiety. Anxiety enters congregations from many angles. One angle from which anxiety enters is finance. Now—at this point, please don't huff and flip the page. I am not about to encourage a pledge increase. But, if you felt that page-turning urge, then know that you experienced the power of anxiety around finance.

Money conversations make congregations very anxious, and often, it's because congregations live collection plate to collection plate. Few congregations have 6-8 months of cash reserves held in savings. Few congregations have foresight to position themselves into a fiscal space where they can borrow against themselves and set their own interest rate (or set none at all). Few congregations grow into a mature understanding of finance.

JOY doesn't have to live as those congregations do. Through present day wise fiscal strategies, JOY can create a future for itself that does not include deep anxiety around money issues. How? Well, how about, by living into Proverbs 27: 23-27? Some part of living into Proverb's biblical, fiscal pattern might include consideration of ["legacy giving."](#)

Legacy giving is one of the most under-utilized means to fund God's ministry. Yet, when properly utilized, it has an amazing ability to free congregations of financial stress and to open congregations to dream. Congregations, just like households, say/think things like, "it'd be nice if we had a _____ but we don't have the money," or, "wouldn't we love to do _____ but we don't have the money." Okay---so we don't have it now, true enough, but what might it look like were we have it in the future. Legacy giving makes this possible. Here are two examples of its power:

1) In 2019, a Lutheran congregation in Central Florida received \$30,000 from the sale of a 10-acre tract of land in Reeves County, TX. Back in the 1980s, the tract had been won in a poker game by my wife's uncle Hugh. Hugh died in 2012, left the tract to the congregation, the tract sold, and the congregation was the benefactor of Uncle Hugh's legacy gift.

2) In 1990, a home interior designer was dying. He loved



"Basically, we're looking for an innovative pastor with a fresh vision who will inspire our church to remain exactly the same."

his congregation and his spouse, wanted both to be well after he was deceased. His solution was to purchase two \$1 million dollar life insurance policies: one for the spouse and one for the congregation. Of course, his death occurs, and everyone grieves, but to this day, interest from this gentleman's legacy gift funds charitable ventures in his home congregation.

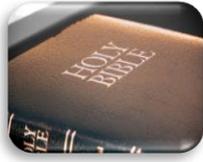
Perhaps you are thinking, "Pastor Bryant is being even crazier than usual." Not so! Pastor Bryant is simply asking us to be more imaginative and innovative in our fiscal strategies. Within our homes, we ponder what we'll leave loved ones upon our passing, why not ponder how we'll treat our congregation as one of our loved ones?

Proverbs 27:23-24 says, "Know well the condition of your flocks, and give attention to your herds; for riches do not last forever, nor a crown for all generations." If nothing else, this sobering text invites us to strategize. "Give attention to your herds" is the strategy offered. How come? Because, as Proverbs 27 goes on to say, "...the lambs will provide your clothing, and the goats the price of a field; there will be enough goats' milk for your food, for the food of your household and nourishment for your servants."

For JOY Lutheran to reduce anxiety around money matters, legacy giving becomes a viable solution. And, it's not the only solution. Still, in 2020, legacy giving conversations need to happen. On February 2nd, Pr. Ana Loyda Lugo will be with us from the ELCA Foundation. I've asked her to make a presentation to JOY during the announcements. Space in the service will be made to accommodate her presentation so that we do not run long. After all, we've our annual meeting on that day. Pr. Ana is a grand lady. I'm looking forward to her visit and I hope you are, too.

Blessings---JDB+

Lectionary "A" for February 2020



Gospel Readings

- February 2nd Luke 2:22-40
- February 9th Matthew 5:13-20
- February 16th Matthew 5:21-37
- February 23rd Matthew 17:1-9

Educational offering during Lent

("5 Tough Questions")



Sunday evenings 5:30PM. Stephen Bryant, Lenoir-Rhyne University graduate w/B.S.in Religious Development, currently completing 2nd semester of master's study via American University will facilitate a discussion of "5 Tough Questions" facing God's 21st century church.

Worship and Music

Worship and Music is discussing purchasing a new set of Paraments. It was brought to our attention that many Lutheran Churches use Crimson Paraments for Holy Week. This is something we believe would add to the beauty and reflection of the season. The Paraments will run about \$2,800.00.

We are discussing ways to raise the funds for the purchase. We are looking into Thrivent, Memorial Funds and congregational support. If you personally have designated funds in the Memorial Account that you may want to contribute to this project, or you would personally be willing to make a donation, please let myself or Linda Collins know. This will help in our planning.

Blessings to All,
Chris Allebaugh

Saturday Night Pilgrim Journey Service February 29th @ 5:30pm

The Saturday evening Pilgrim Journey service format is a more informal worship service of prayer and praise. It will also be followed by a PIZZA FELLOWSHIP.

Prayer - Praise - Pizza

When you arrive for the service at 5:30 pm there will be a sign up for pizza. There is no charge, but we ask that you think about a donation of just \$1 a slice. There will be a choice of toppings. Just let us know how many slices you want and what kind, and we will place the order and it will be ready after the service.

Tea and lemonade will be provided, or else bring your own beverage.



Ash Wednesday Service
February 26th at 6:30 pm

**Ash Wednesday and Mid-Week
Lenten Services at Joy**

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 26th with a service of the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion at Joy. This service will be at 6:30 pm. On the five following Wednesday evenings, we will have a simple soup and sandwich supper together beginning at 6:00pm. Following dinner, at 6:30 pm, we will have a brief service of worship using Holden Evening Prayer.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
February 25th at 6:00pm



The origin of Shrove Tuesday comes from the idea of - the night before Lent begins - consuming everything in the household from which one planned to abstain during Lent. We serve pancakes to connect us to the customs of a time when flour, eggs, milk, butter and other food items were all on the Lenten abstinence list. These days we celebrate the evening before Ash Wednesday more as a foretaste of the feast to come at Easter. (ELCA)

**Lenten & Holy Week
Service Times**

February 25th - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 6pm. Brief "Burning of the Palms" beforehand.

February 26th - Ash Wednesday 6:30pm

March 4th through April 1st (Wednesdays): Holden Evening Prayer midweek 6pm soup & sandwich dinner, 6:30pm service.

April 5th - Palm Sunday (We would ask that you bring your own palms, extras will be available.)

April 9th - Maundy Thursday 6:30pm (If you are able, bring sock donation for homeless.)

April 10th - Good Friday Tenebrae 6:30pm

April 12th - Easter Sunday

LENT

Well, I guess Christmas is finally over! What began before Halloween, bolstered by “Black Friday”, peaking on December 25th and culminating on Epiphany is definitely one of the highlights of the year. It was a great holiday except perhaps, for those who lost loved ones recently. Family togetherness is an important part of Christmas as it was for that first family and for our church family. Both Judy and I lost our mothers this past year so there was a real void in our family that can never again be filled. The good news, is that their average age was over 100 years and that led us to celebrate both lives lived under the cross of Jesus. Both were servants and I purposely use the word “saint” to refer to both of them.

Now with Lent beginning soon, life gets back to normal reality. Ash Wednesday is February 26th. A day of true reality. A day that is as somber as it can get. Ashes on our foreheads reminds us that we are not as great as we think we are. We are dust and to dust we shall return. How awful! I hate those words. I used them at both of our mothers’ funerals last year. Anyway, it’s a somber reminder for us to do some self-reflecting or introspection and contemplate just what Jesus did for us. Lent is definitely a low point in the church year. Who am I really? What am I doing with my life? Why did Jesus have to die? Am I responsible? Then comes Maundy Thursday 30 years after that first Christmas. That was another down day when Jesus revealed to his disciples what was about to happen to Him. So, what did he do? He got down on His knees and washed the feet of each and every one of those twelve. Yuk! But you know that was Jesus’ true human nature. He was a servant of all. Yes, here is the Lord of all washing the dirty feet of those lowly disciples. You talk about loving, caring, serving, healing, His not exercising His Lordship but serving one another. Washing feet! I think that’s what is terribly missing today. Not the washing of feet, but the caring for the least of these. Loving the worst, showing compassion to one another, helping each other. That’s what Jesus was really all about and that’s what Jesus wants of us. He said later, before he took the bread and wine that this was His body and His blood which was shed for all of us. Of course, this literally happened the very next day.

Following comes Good Friday, which I think is the most important day of the Christian Church year. That day, our Salvation was secured. By his dying on the cross that day, our sins were washed away – forever. Jesus died with our sins on his shoulders to free us; to cleanse us. Yes, we are freed from sin, not just the sins we confess, but even the ones that we don’t. “Known and Unknown” the creed says, forever.

Good Friday is when we were given the greatest gift of all time. It’s the reason Jesus came in the first place. As opposed to “Black Friday” when we all go stand in line and buy all those “just gifts”. Good Friday’s gift is, was and always will be free. So, accept it. It’s free for the taking. That “low” day for Jesus, became the “high” day for us. That’s if we call it “Good Friday”. “Truly He was the Son of God” – the centurion said at the cross. That’s what Lent is all about.

Oh yes, and then comes Easter!

Pastor Ed Baltzersen



Ladies, you are invited to join us for some God time with your sisters in Christ. We share a desire to grow in relationship with God through His Word as well as in relationship with each other by sharing our time, our joys and our sorrows with each other. Please come and be with us for our Women's Bible Study group.

WELCA Eve Circle Bible Study on Tuesday, February 18th at 11:30 a.m.
Study from *GATHER* magazine

"We are called!" Winter 2020 Bible study by Kathryn A. Kleinhans

Session 2: "Disciples of Christ" Jesus invites us all to take up the cross and follow him.

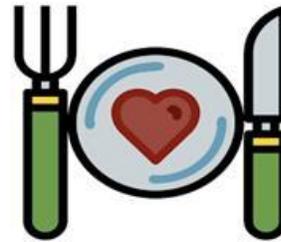
We are called to respond to God not just in our personal relationship with God but in our relationships with family and friends, in our work, and in our communities.

Young at Heart

Young at Heart will be meeting on **Thursday February 20th at noon**. All are welcome. Invite your friends, relatives, and neighbors. It will be a potluck luncheon. So please bring a dish to share (your choice of meat, vegetable, salad, or dessert). The fellowship is always wonderful.

For additional information contact:
Dot Kirsch (321) 956-1245
Doris Bunker (321) 723-0710

Always check Sunday's bulletin for any changes.



DAILY BREAD, INC.
815 E Fee Avenue, Melbourne, FL 32901

We thank God for the opportunity we have to serve our neighbor through the Daily Bread ministry at JOY.

The need for what we often take for granted, food and basic necessities, is evident in the ministry of Daily Bread.

+ Warm meals at a soup kitchen: Whether people are looking for refuge from the streets or a little extra help to get by, a warm meal and a seat at the table can go a long way.

+ Daily Bread Serves meals to people in need. They also help connect people to resources they need, addressing long term needs and overcoming hunger and poverty and homelessness. Hot showers in the hygiene building. Clean clothes.

JOY Lutheran Church Team serves hot meals the 4th Friday (**Feb. 28th**) of each month from 10:45 to 1:30 p.m. Please contact Elaine Heine (215-7928) or Connie Steinhorst (725-6391) if you can help. Thanks to each of you for your support of this ministry. Please remember, **DAILY BREAD** depends on volunteers.

"...for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me..." Matthew 25:35 (NRSV)

Men of Joy

Our men's group is working on a project for which we could really use the donation of a working flat panel LCD TV of 50" size or larger. This could be your old HDTV that you are upgrading with a newer 4K. We'd appreciate any help with this, and we think that the project will be a real benefit to the church. The men's group is also planning a garage sale as a fund raiser, but this is still in the planning stages and has not yet been scheduled. Keep us in mind if you have any old tools, small appliances, electronics and small furniture items (no clothing or children's toys, please).

The men's group usually meets on the first Saturday of the month at 9:30 a.m. at church. These meetings include some light business but also a brief devotional and a lot of mutual support. All the men associated with the congregation are welcome.

Note that the men's group is not the same organization as the property team, although there is overlap between the two. Of course, ladies and youth are welcome at the property work days while the men's group is the men's equivalent of WELCA for our ladies.



February 2, 2020
~12:00 p.m.
(Following the Service)

Wednesdays Together

“**Wednesdays Together**”, 2020 Lutheran Episcopal Prayer Svcs, 6pm prayer, 6:30pm Meal. A joint evening prayer service with Blessed Redeemer Episcopal (1225 DeGroot Road SW, Palm Bay, FL) starts January 29th at 6pm.

1/29 Prayer for Christian Unity @Blessed Redeemer. We provide desserts.

2/25 Shrove Tuesday @JOY. We provide pancake meal. Brief "Burning of the Palms" beforehand.

3/25 Holden Evening (Feast of the Annunciation) @JOY. We provide meal.

4/29 Feast of St. Catherine of Sienna @Blessed Redeemer. We provide desserts

5/21 Feast of the Ascension @JOY. We provide meal.

6/24 St. John the Baptist @Blessed Redeemer. We provide desserts



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 **seven** families each weekend. The cost is about \$175 per week.

To contribute, use your offering envelope and specify Backpack on the "Other" line.

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 program.

Fun in the Sun Teens Encounter Christ

hosts its 11th retreat weekend February 15-17, 2020 at Camp Wingmann, Avon Park.

This is an hour and a half drive from us. Usually the retreat is held 3-ish hours away at Luther Springs. Eighth graders and up are eligible to attend. Some scholarship money is available. Pr. Andrew Wiesner, Lenoir Rhyne University's campus pastor is serving as one of the retreat's spiritual directors.

See Pr. Bryant for details or registration applications.

Soap Collection Continues Lutheran World Relief.



A collection basket is located in the Narthex. Thank you for your support of this project.

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 Tidings no later than February 25th**.

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

A Note of Thanks



I would like to thank all of the Joy members who called, visited, and mailed cards. The many prayers were especially helpful.

God Bless you all!
Winnie Hall



JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

New Officers for 2020 elected at Jan. 11 meeting

- † Pres. – Marjorie Maenpaa
- † Vice Pres. – Harriet Bryant
- † Sec. – Connie Steinhorst
- † Treasurer – Linda Kratzer

News from 1-11-2020 meeting

The ELCA has “Good Gifts”, gifts that fight hunger and transform lives of needy people in foreign countries. A vote was taken to purchase farm animals from ELCA “GOOD GIFTS” as WELCA’s charity for 2020. An example would be: piglets @ \$30.00, goats @ \$60.00, chicks @\$10.00, a family farm (cow, couple goats, dozen chicks, 2-pigs, farming tools, seeds and agricultural training) @\$715.00. Our gifts would go where most needed and sent by the ELCA. ELCA church wide ministries are in 77 countries.

WELCA would like to include the congregation in the “Good Gifts/Farm Animals” project. The fundraiser would be headed up by WELCA. BOLD WOMEN SUNDAY (Feb 23) would be the official startup date. The closing date would be Easter (April 12).

Needy Student fund: Once a year, WELCA helps with Wal-Mart gift cards for student/family needs at Turner Elementary. These cards are used for clothing and/or food for the family. The motion was made, seconded and carried to put aside \$1000.00 for this purpose.

SOAP collected for Lutheran World Relief: Please bring in wrapped bars. Shipment goes out Feb. 18th

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- † FEBRUARY 7: 9:30 A.M. meeting to discuss making crafts for Christmas Festival
- † FEBRUARY 18: Collection date for Lutheran World Relief at St. Timothy in Melbourne. LWR Collection: soap, quilts, school backpacks
- † FEBRUARY 23: Bold Women Sunday – start of ELCA “Good Gifts”/Farm Animals for countries overseas Fundraiser
- † FEBRUARY 25: Pancake Supper/Shrove Tuesday to be held jointly with Fellowship Committee
- † MARCH 7: WELCA Pancake Breakfast.
- † MARCH 2: 10:00 a.m. WELCA meeting
- † MARCH 21: National Quilt Day – Quilting Bee
- † MARCH 22: National Quilt Day – quilt display quilts

CIRCLE MEETINGS

Ruth Circle (Craft circle) – Feb. 7th @ 9:30

Eve Circle (Bible Study) – 3rd Tuesday each month @ 11:30, Bible Study from the *Gather* magazine

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

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

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.



¹⁸The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit. ¹⁹Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord rescues them from them all. Psalm 34:18-19(NRSV)

We especially pray for:

Norman Barmen	Tina Breeden
Donald Christensen	Larry Ciecierski
Emilio Cruz	Winnie Hall
Gunner Heim	Jason Herndon
Dot Kirsch	Bob Lengel
Julio Melendez	Judy Marciano
Elizabeth Planding	Joyce Powell
Rebecca Reynolds	Joy Sorensen
Millie Spiers	Tina Stella
Thelma Tucker	Sherry Weldon

Note: See Sunday Bulletins for additional and most current prayer concerns.

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

2019 Church Council

Pastor - Rev. John David Bryant

President – Karen Runk

Vice President – Melody Shaffer

Secretary - Kelly Arner

Treasurer - Kim Tolley

Financial Secretary - Linda Kratzer

Council Members at Large:

Renee Harper

Bob Getter

Wahneeta Ryckman

Ray Shaffer

Barbara Sparks

Connie Thorman



February Birthday Blessings

- 2/01 Kay Small
- 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
- 2/21 Lee Bockelman
- 2/22 Emilio Cruz
- 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 2019 Stewardship

General Fund	(Please see Sunday bulletin for current information.)		
Needed each Month	\$13,822	Needed YTD	\$165,864
Received in November	\$15,151	Received YTD	\$149,910
Capital Improvement Fund			
Budgeted each Month	\$1,962	Budgeted YTD	\$23,544
Received in November	\$1,891	Received YTD	\$21,908

FEBRUARY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
Check Sunday Bulletins for details or changes in schedule.					8:30am Property Work Day	9:00am "Men of Joy" Bible Study & Business Mtg
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Annual Meeting Following Service	9:30am Ruth Circle Crafts	10am Dorcas Circle Quilting	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting		8:30am Property Work Day	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship		10am Dorcas Circle Quilting 11am Fellowship Mtg	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting		8:30am Property Work Day	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship		10am Dorcas Circle 11:30pm Bible Study	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting	12pm Young at Heart	8:30am Property Work Day	
23	24	25	Ash Wednesday 26	27	28	29
8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship	7pm Council Mtg	10am Dorcas Circle Quilting 6pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service		8:30am Property Work Day 11am-1:30pm Daily Bread	5:30pm Prayer & Praise Worship Pilgrim Journey