



Tidings of Joy

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



Volume 32, Issue 2

3174 Jupiter Blvd. SE – Palm Bay, FL 32909

February 2016

Interim Pastor

The Rev. C. Judd Ludder

Worship Times:

Sunday

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

Last Saturday of Month

5:30p.m. Pilgrim Journey Band
(Rock Style Worship)

Last Sunday of Month

10:00a.m. Pilgrim Journey Band
(Rock Style Worship)

Church Office Phone:

321-951-0166

Pastor's Cell Phone:

407-340-4740

Church Web Site:

www.joylutheranelca.com

Church Email Address:

joylutheranpb@gmail.com

LENT

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten*, which means "spring." The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent was a time to prepare new converts for baptism. Today, Christians focus on their relationship with God, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of themselves for others.

Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter" and the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.



Ash Wednesday officially begins the season of Lent; it ends at the Easter Vigil.

What is important about Lent is to fully enter into the penitential tone of the season and to be prepared for Easter.



Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday Service

February 10th at 6:30 pm

Midweek Lenten Services:

Wednesday evening services begin February 17th and continue through March 16th.

Please join us at:
6:00pm Soup and Sandwiches

6:30pm Evening Worship



LENT SUPPER SCHEDULE

- February 17thFellowship Committee
- February 24thJoy Men's Group
- March 2ndWorship and Music
- March 9thChurch Council
- March 16thWomen of the ELCA

How to Worship



Be silent.
 Be thoughtful.
 Be reverent, for this is the House of the Lord.
 Before the service, speak to God.
 During the service, let God speak to you.
 After the service, speak to one another.
 ...Unknown



Psalm 27:1 (NRSV)

*The LORD is my light and my salvation;
 whom shall I fear?
 The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
 of whom shall I be afraid?*

When life's upheavals thrust us into darkness, we need the light of God's presence. There are no power outages with the light of God's love. His light will guide us through the darkness.

David Steinhorst

Pastor's Point

By the time you are reading this, Joy will have conducted its Annual Congregational meeting to review the year of 2015, to approve/change and adopt a 2016 fiscal mission budget and to elect council members and congregational officers for 2016. I am very grateful for those who served on Church Council in 2015 and appreciative of their work. Likewise, I am also thankful and appreciative of those who have consented to serve the congregation in leadership position for 2016. Willingness of Joy people to serve is a good sign and I am looking forward to working with the leadership at Joy in this New Year when we, God willing, will identify and call a new pastor to Joy.

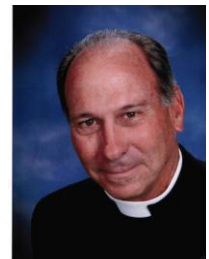
I am very pleased with the progress we have made together at Joy Lutheran during this interim year in which we have been together. Rather than review what I have already stated in the 2015 Annual Report, suffice it to say that a number of significant changes have been made, numerous property improvement have been accomplished, new ministry structures have begun to emerge, there is a little monetary cushion in the bank and the state of the congregation is healthy and positive. I see no major issues remaining that would prevent Joy for moving ahead to form a Call Committee and move ahead with the call process. There are a few remaining items on the Transition Checklist that will need to be accomplished prior to the formation of a Call Committee, but I see that being complete by the end of February.

The one possible concern I have for the call of a new pastor is compensation. While the 2016 budget provides for a new pastoral package in the last half of 2016 that is about 11% higher than what was paid the previous full time pastor on an annual basis, Joy will still have to grow to meet its financial needs in 2017 and beyond. Therefore I will continue to concentrate on new membership - even during this interim time - for if Joy is able to grow now; it can certainly grow under the leadership of a new full time pastor. However, the budget for 2016 is only a modest increase over our actual receipts for 2015 and therefore I feel very comfortable that Joy Church can meet its fiscal goals in the year to come.

In addition to growth, I will also focus on our Core Values which we determined at our Living Lutheran Retreat on January 9. Now that we know what Joy is about, we should plan to consciously incorporate them into all existing and new ministries at Joy.

Thank you all for a good year together. I look forward to what the Lord will do at Joy in the year to come.

In Christ,
Pastor Ludder



Mission Related Event/Retreat

Pastor Don Reiter facilitated (January 9th) a Florida Synod required mission related event/retreat for the entire congregation prior to the forming of the Call Committee. This event was well attended, with over 40 Joy members present. The six hour event culminated with a list of our core values, which will be used as we call a pastor.

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

"Sloppy Joe Supper"



WELCA will sponsor a Sloppy Joe Supper on Saturday, February 27, 2016 at 4:00 prior to the 5:30pm Pilgrim Journey Worship Service. Proceeds will be used to provide approximately 30 health kits, which Norman Barman will take with him on his trip to Guatemala (Boca Costa Medical Mission).

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



Coffee, Snack, and Cold Drink served in the kitchen after worship.

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

THRIVENT MEMBERS

Remember, 2015 Choice Dollars expire on March 31, 2016.

Don't miss this opportunity to recommend where Thrivent Financial should distribute some of its charitable outreach funds. Joy Lutheran Church can be a designated place to distribute your "Choice Dollars".



JOY Lutheran Church - Women of the ELCA

Congratulations to the newly elected WELCA 2016 Officers:

- President.....Rene' Harper
- Vice-President...Dee Dorman
- Treasurer.....Kathleene Hagen
- Secretary.....Linda Kratzer

Mark these dates on your calendar:

- Tuesday February 9th.....LWR Quilts, soap and Book Bags to St. Timothy
- Saturday February 20th at 9:00am...Space Coast Conference at St. Timothy
(Conference Banner Making)
- Saturday February 27th at 4:00pm...Sloppy Joe Dinner (Boca Costa Medical Mission)
- Saturday, April 9th.....Spring Gathering at Ascension Lutheran
- Saturday, March TBD.....Pancake breakfast.
- Saturday, December 3rd.....Christmas Luncheon

Dorcas Circle - (Quilting)

Meets every Tuesday at 10:00am.

Martha Circle - (Daytime Bible Study)

Bible Study on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays **12:00pm** (after quilting).
Come have a great time learning from Pastor Lynn Ash (bring a sack lunch).
Pastor Lynn will lead the Bible study.
This group is not just for women, anyone interested is welcome to attend.

Eve Circle - (Bible Study)

Meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at **12:00p.m** Eve Circle will meet February 16th.
The Bible Study is from the "GATHER" Magazine:
"Christian Citizenship 101"
The study is based on *Philippians 1:27 – 2:18*.

Rachel Circle - (Knit/Crochet)

Meets every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.

Phoebe Circle - Not currently active, but continue to supply cards to Doris Bunker for mailing to the congregation for birthdays and get-well.

STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION

Q: I've heard I can donate my MRD directly to a charity? Is that true?

A: Yes; It has taken almost a full year – literally – but Congress finally passed an appropriations act, which included the much anticipated extenders bill. However, this isn't your run-of-the-mill extenders bill. This year's version of the extenders bill permanently extends the QCD (Qualified Charitable Distribution) provision that allows; IRA owners age 70½ or older to donate up to \$100,000 from their traditional IRA directly to a qualified charity and have it count toward their minimum required distribution (MRD).

An important tax note: The MRD amount you donate directly to charity is not tax deductible. Instead, you don't have to include it in your taxable income, as you typically do with an MRD. That is the tax benefit.

For tax year 2016, MRDs must be donated by December 31, 2016, to count toward a 2016 MRD. To do this, talk to your financial advisor/institution. The check must be made out to the charity (i.e. Joy Lutheran Church) by your financial institution. Then, they can send you the check to present to the charity or they can mail it directly to the charity.

Winning: Donors who take advantage of the IRA charitable rollover provision can win by:

- Reducing assets in their IRA accounts that can be highly taxed at death.
- Making meaningful—including larger—outright gifts to their favorite charities.
- Seeing their gifts impact their charities' mission and results now.
- Knowing that IRA charitable rollovers will qualify—in part or in whole—for the yearly required minimum distributions for persons age 70½ and older.
- Understanding that, while IRA owners cannot take an income tax deduction for this transfer, neither will they have to realize it as taxable income.

Check with your financial advisor to take advantage of the IRA charitable rollover provision.

Sending our prayers, God knows their needs!



Marion Bauman, Martha Carmichael, Ernie Church, David Cruz, Todd Eagle, Jinny Fisher, Josh Herndon, Rachael Herndon, Nancy Pagelsdorf, Vincent Powell, Pearl Reid, Cindy Simonelli, Elaine Simonelli, Rev. Don Dotzel, Rev. Bill Stremel, and Rev. Cindy Werner.

Musical Notes from Pilgrim Journey



Peace to all from the Pilgrim Journey Band.

My thanks to God for our partners in ministry. Aaron and Doris Collins who led worship for us on January 30 and Ken Green who helped us with Sunday worship on January 31. Friends, loving Christians, and awesome musicians in addition to the regular Pilgrim Journey members.

Please continue to come out and lift your voices in praise to our God. I PROMISE you will be blessed by the music.

Al



Dear Joy Family

Thanks to all members and friends of Joy Lutheran Church for the prayers, kind greetings, lovely cards, and especially the hugs given to me and my kids after Juanita passed away. You are all a blessing to me. The Memorial service we shared was special and I am still enjoying food left over from that event. Someday I will be with Juanita again and we will be praising God together as we have done so many times before.

God is Good

Peace,
Al

Valentine Spaghetti Dinner Sunday, February 14th at 5:00PM



The Fellowship Committee invites you to attend our first social event of 2016, as we honor the "Men of Joy" for all they do for the church and community.

A sign-up sheet is located in the narthex.



Young at Heart Luncheon

Please join us at noon on **February 18th** for our next Young at Heart pot-luck. All you need to do is show up, with a dish of your choice to share. Then, enjoy the delicious food and wonderful fellowship with members of the Joy family. Everyone is most welcome. Bring a friend or neighbor.

We care about you!



Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for 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 that you have been hospitalized.

Please contact the church office, if you would like to be listed for prayer support.

February brings Valentine's Day and that can be a lonely time, when the one you love has passed. Everyone else seems so happy. Yet, you are not alone. Grieving is a part of life. Seek to share with another person or two like yourself. Where two or three are gathered Jesus is in the midst ready to comfort all of you. Stephen Ministers are here to listen to you also. Ask Pastor Ludder.

Services are held at nursing homes on the following schedule. Volunteers to help are always welcomed

- Life Care - 2nd Sunday 10am
- Palms Rehab - 3rd Friday 10 am
- Sarah Care - 1st & 3rd Wed. at 1pm

2015 Stewardship Totals

General Fund			
Needed each Month	\$10,835	Needed 2015	\$130,020
Received in December	\$12,297	Received 2015	\$127,401
Building Fund			
Needed each Month	\$1,897	Needed 2015	\$22,764
Received in December	\$1,860	Received 2015	\$22,297



February Birthday Blessings

- 2/01 Kay Small
- 2/03 Brian Getter
- 2/05 George Christensen
- 2/05 Nicholas Mocca
- 2/07 Pr. John Green
- 2/08 Courtney Grimmich
- 2/13 Jeff Stoker
- 2/15 Sue Stoker
- 2/15 Tony Skura
- 2/16 Kenneth Wolf, Jr.
- 2/17 Don Heine
- 2/20 Roy Chin
- 2/21 Lee Bockelman
- 2/22 Dorothy Boichot
- 2/22 Emilio Cruz
- 2/22 Kaitlin Embrey
- 2/22 Pat Moerke
- 2/23 Leah Bockelman
- 2/23 Maryann Valentine
- 2/23 Bruce Snyder
- 2/24 Luther Radway
- 2/26 Nancy Pagelsdorf
- 2/26 Joy Peters

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.



Receive your copy of “Tidings of Joy” by email.

To help defray mailing and printing costs (good stewardship); you can receive a copy of our monthly “Tidings of Joy” electronically. Let the church office know that you would like to receive the monthly “Tidings of Joy” via your email address, by providing your email address. Then, next month look for it in your email mailbox!! It’s that easy, and it’s in color!! Your email address will not be distributed.

Of course, copies will always be available in the Narthex and at www.joylutheranelca.com/.

FEBRUARY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>See Sunday Bulletins for details or changes in schedule.</p>	1	2 10am Dorcas Circle	3 10am Rachel Circle	4	5 8:30am Property Work Group	6
7	8 10am Stephen Ministry Mtg.	9 10am Dorcas Circle 12:00pm Bible Study 1pm Social Ministry Mtg 2pm Fellowship Mtg.	<i>Ash Wednesday</i> 10 10am Rachel Circle 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service	11	12 8:30am Property Work Group	13
14 8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship 5:00pm Valentine Spaghetti Dinner	15	16 10am Dorcas Circle 12pm Eve Circle 6pm Worship & Music Team Mtg 7pm Council Mtg.	17 10am Rachel Circle 6:00pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Service	18 12:00pm Young-at-Heart	19 8:30am Property Work Group	20
21 8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship	22	23 10am Dorcas Circle 12:00pm Bible Study	24 10am Rachel Circle 6:00pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Service	25	26 8:30am Property Work Group Daily Bread 10am-2pm	27 4:00pm Sloppy Joe Dinner 5:30pm Rock Style Worship Pilgrim Journey
28 8:45am Adult Bible Study 10am Worship Pilgrim Journey	29					