

TIDINGS OF JOY

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 5

MAY 2024

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LOVE, LISTEN, LEARN, LEAD



“Where there is no vision, the people perish.” (Proverbs 29:18)

Dear JOYful Family,

This past month, I set forth a challenge to measure differently who we are and what we do as JOY!ful, freed, Easter children of God. Maybe there are stories I haven't heard yet, or you are too humble to share. At least, I hope I got you all thinking beyond mere numbers of attendance, offering, and kilowatt hours.

At Arnette House foster village last Saturday, we learned, because we asked, what young people would like a church to be. They are looking for loving relationships, inspiring music, people who care about those outside the church. While the numbers for our Outreach Ministry project were modest – eleven volunteers who made and served a picnic lunch for ten foster children and four staff – the experience was immeasurable. Your brothers and sisters at Joy felt gratitude for the opportunity to share the love of Christ.

On the 8th of April, thirty-five of us gathered to “dine and dream”. We came up with a plethora of ideas, many of which are worthy of further exploration. They are achievable. Let's make May a month of

Continued on Page 3

SCAN FOR ON-LINE
GIVING



Our mission is to share the Good News of grace and love with all through worship, service, and fellowship.



MEET OUR STAFF

CHURCH STAFF & OFFICERS

Pastor-Art Wuertz
 Seminary Intern-Bob Bonomo
 Administrative Assistant-
 Zsuzsanna Jobbagy
 Director of Music-Silas Daniel
 Choir Director-Paul Hyatt
 Handbell Director-
 Melissa Daniel
 Sexton-Harold Decker
 Treasurer-Terry Owen

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS:

President-Ray Ihlenburg
 Vice President-JR Frederiksen
 Secretary-Linda Aker
 Treasurer-Terry Owen

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Carson Faris
 Hank Groth
 Robert Irish
 Doug Juhl
 Pat Smith
 Paul Spellman
 John Voyles



05/02 Kathleen Parli
 05/04 Vicki Valli
 05/09 Terri Feeley
 Marcia O'Brien
 Diane Wanat
 05/11 Bob Vogel
 05/12 Phil Lizak
 Lynn Ihlenburg
 05/13 Odd Bjerkmann
 05/14 Marilyn Olson
 05/16 Marjorie Wlodarczyk
 05/17 Charlie Meier
 05/18 Marguerite Cox
 05/19 Lynn Juhl
 Lenny Matz Sr.
 05/22 Emily McGrury
 05/24 Debra Wuertz
 05/25 Robin Kaiser
 05/29 Don Chaney Jr.
 05/30 Patti Spellman



05/08 Dan & Carol Schellenbach 60 yrs.
 05/10 Mike & Jean Beaver 48 yrs.
 05/20 David & Doreen Robinson 26 yrs.
 05/22 Jack & Sheila Mixdorf 48 yrs.
 05/27 Paul & Paula Stevens 37 yrs.
 05/30 Hank & Jean Groth 60 yrs.
 Mike & Lisa Schiavi 37 yrs.

*May God bless all of our celebrants with
 health, happiness, peace, and love.*

Continued from page 1 sharpening and focusing our ministries. It's a good month to define objectives and, if needed, provide Finance Ministry and Council with requested financial resources so they may be budgeted for. It will take leadership, and not just from me or Council. We can do God's work together! There are some things that have "cross-pollination"; common steps shared across our ministries.

We accomplish all things through Christ who gives us strength (Phil. 4:13). We can reach others through big events, like Family Fun Day on the 4th and "Seasons of Joy" concerts. We can connect by serving with our hearts and hands. This month of May, concluding with the summer transition to one worship service at 10:00, can be a big push to to put action to some dreams, to develop new ventures.

Love, Pastor Art

OUTREACH

OUTREACH PROJECT

APRIL 20TH, ARNETTE HOUSE

We served ten foster youth and four staff a barbeque picnic lunch. It was a JOY! To minister with food and listening ears.

Big thanks to: Intern Bob Bonomo, J.R. and Beth Frederiksen, Sharon Johnson, Linda Aker, Jim & Marcia O'Brien, Jerry Wieland, Martha Wiley, and Robin Kaiser for making and serving the food, giving gift cards and hygiene items.

WELL DONE, TEAM!!

Church Council News

This report may arrive just in time to announce that the first weekend in May will be very busy at JOY. We have the Family Funday on Saturday with booths, games, food, car show, pony rides, and music. Then on Sunday at the 11:00 am service we will recognize our tutoring students and their parents. The students will be presented with a Certificate and a backpack with supplies for next year. Tutoring started with two students and finished this school year with six students. Reports of grade improvements abound.

The Concert Series is really developing with the formation of the Concert Oversight Ministry now chaired by Linda Aker. A sneak peek of the lineup showed great entertainment but lips are sealed for now.

On April 8th the Stewardship Ministry hosted a Dine and Dream dinner where 36 JOY members representing the Christian Education, Member Care, Outreach, and Worship and Music Ministries met to brainstorm for the future and how we can improve our communication and ministries. Numerous ideas will be implemented over the remainder of this year. If you have the desire to help JOY, please consider joining one of our great ministries.

Property ministry is moving ahead to have the Music Room and Outreach Room windows treated with solar and heat reflecting film. The rear door will also be treated. These rooms can become very warm in the late afternoons which makes it difficult for the air conditioning to keep them cool and a sweat box for our tutors.

Please share the load. When Covid slowed everything down and prevented ministry meetings, Pastor Art took over the mission of keeping our Ministries going. He now serves as Chair for four, maybe five, of our ministries. Now that things are as back to normal as possible, the Council is calling for lay-members of those ministries to elect a chair person. The Chair would take the administrative load off of Pastor Art so he can focus on spiritual leadership. This is also a call for new and old members to seek out a ministry where you feel called and join the JOY.

In Service,

Ray Ihlenburg
Council President

INTERN'S CORNER



Greeting from Our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,

I thank each and every one of you for your welcoming me as your Intern and how warm and Blessed I feel from your kindness . I am a firm believer that God puts you where He wants you and it plays out just as He wants it to. I look forward to my time here with all of you at Joy, and please know I am always available to assist, listen, and converse with anyone who may need to share a thought a question or just opening your heart and letting it go.

Psalm 5:11: “But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice, let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.”

Blessings,
Intern Robert Bonomo

BIBLE READINGS FOR MAY 2024

SUNDAY	FIRST READING	PSALM	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
05-May	ACTS	PSALM	1 JOHN	JOHN
	10:44-48	98	5:1-6	15:9-17
12-May	ACTS 1:15-17, 21-26	PSALM 1	1 JOHN 5:9-13	JOHN 17:6-19
19-May	ACTS 2:1-21	PSALM 104:24-34,35B	ROMANS 8:22-27	JOHN 15:26-27; 16:4B-15
26-May	ISAIAH 6:1-8	PSALM 29	ROMANS 8:12-17	JOHN 3:1-17

INTERFAITH

Generous Joy

During Lent many of us enjoyed soup suppers on Wednesdays in Swenson Hall. I join in thanking the organizers and soup makers, but today I want especially to thank all those generous folks who left a donation in the basket. Your generosity this year was awesome. Over the five-week period your gifts to Interfaith totaled \$558.50!

I want you all to know where those dollars will be used. Joy has the privilege of serving dinner to the 25-30 women and children at the Interfaith Shelter on the 29th of each month. "Dinner" consists of a main dish, vegetable, salad, rolls and butter, beverages, and desserts. We often add fresh fruit, snacks like chips or cookies that can be taken back to their rooms, and a few small toys for the children. The volunteers of the month choose their own menu. A few of the recent dinners featured baked ham and au gratin potatoes, meatball sandwiches with macaroni and cheese, and lasagna with salad,. Favorite beverages are coke, sweet tea, lemonade, apple juice and milk.

We don't want the cost of the food to stop anyone from enjoying this great opportunity to bring dinner and visit with these families. Thanks to you all, this past year we have been able to offer each volunteer group up to \$50 toward the cost of food. That seems to be a welcome help to many. Others choose not to accept it and donate their purchases. Either way is just fine.

The other cost is paper goods. We use a constant supply of sturdy paper plates, salad bowls, dessert plates, napkins, paper cups, flatware, and plastic coverings for the serving tables. We get good buys at Sam's, but this too adds up.

We're all set now for the months to come – **thank you!**

Judy & Joe Spillane

If you'd like to help out as "servers," we still have a month or two open in 2024. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board.

OUTREACH & EVANGELISM MINISTRY

TUESDAY, MAY 14TH, 3:30 IN THE NARTHEX

We are ALL evangelists in a spiritual community that shares Christ's love in a challenging world. This is our vision.

It is more about purpose than numerical growth.

Come join us in discovering God's call to us! Our Outreach and Evangelism Ministry schedules an action event every month that ALL of you can participate in.

People are open to the Gospel. They are spiritual, even if they aren't coming to church. It is SO important to thoughtfully engage in a way that's respectful, honest, and hopeful.

Seasons of JOY

Concert Series

presents

The “Amazing” Steel Drum Ensemble



Join us for a special concert featuring the tropical sounds of authentic steel drums! Program will include a variety of selections from a repertoire that spans traditional island songs, jazz, Jimmy Buffet, The Beatles, and

patriotic songs. Love offering proceeds will go to support the programs and efforts of the Hernando-based Good Spirit Foundation (parent organization of the Amazing Steel Drum Ensemble) which provides numerous services including counseling, camps, life skills and entrepreneurship training, and digital and musical opportunities.



May 19, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary at JOY Lutheran.

Please scan the QR code for more info!

STEWARDSHIP



May Stewardship *Tips and Tidbits*

Consider giving automatically with a
Direct Bank Draft.

It is so easy and can be modified or cancelled at any time,
with no fees.

Can be set up on your bank website.

or

Call the office and talk with Terry for help setting this up.

What is this QR code thing?

Do you want to know how to access
information using a QR code?

Tutorials are available after the
SUNDAY services in May.

It is easy.

**Stop in for a quick tutorial
in the Outreach room.**





What a “JOY” on March 24th to welcome two new members to Joy Lutheran. This is a place to worship and hear God’s Word weekly. The many ministries are opportunities for service both near and far.

Welcome to Our Church

LEGEND

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| MF: Moved from/Previous Residence | H/I: Hobbies and Interests |
| O: Occupation | PCI: Previous Church Involvement |
| F: Family | ** Associates |

JANET (JAN) L. AMMONS

PALM CAY

MF: Clarksville, TN

O: Retired

F: Widow– 1 son Jason Roberts and 4 Grandsons

PCI: Member-Grace Lutheran Church, Clarksville, TN
 Already in a Bible Study Class here

TOM G. ITTNER

**OTOW
 LONG LEAF RIDGE PHASE 5**

MF: Palm Beach, FL

O: Retired, Financial Services

F: Wife, 1 son, 1 daughter and 3 grand children

H/I: Golf

PCI: Church Radios, Church Treasurer
 Member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Racine, WI



Home-bound & Assisted Living

Homebound

JoAnne Boyer
Frank Jarvis
Barb Johnson
Bill Mooney
Mike Noble
Merrick Owen

Brentwood at Fore Ranch

Ralph Wright

The Bridge at Ocala

Grace Hansen

**Bridgewater Park
Assisted Living**

Bob Vogel

**Bridgewater Park Memory
Care**

Odd Bjerkmann

**Brookdale Paddock Hills
Memory Care**

George Brush

**Brookdale Paddock
Hills**

Assisted Living Facility

Marguerite Cox

Life Care Center of

Ocala

Violet Frey

**Marion Woods
Assisted Living**

George Spong

Military

Ray Allen
Jessie Bleikhardt
Christopher Borkenheim
Gorwin Boyd
Jamie Boyd
Jeremiah Caspersen
Cody Ehulund
Daniel Miller
Benjamin Numa
Samuel Stephenson
Matt Willerick

Around the World

Caregivers
Congress
First Responders
Hospital Workers
Police Depart-
ments
President
Relief Workers
Children of War-
Foster Parents
Missing People
Persecuted Chris-
tians
Travelers

Economy
End all the vio-
lence
Environment
Jobs

ALL THE PEOPLE OF
THE WORLD
Especially:

China
Cuba
Egypt
Haiti
Iran

Israel
Iraq
Kenya
Libya
N. Korea
Pakistan
S. Korea
Syria
Ukraine
USA

Current Needs:**Ongoing Needs:**

Grace Ban
 Bud Barbier
 John Blackburn
 Joe Burczynski
 Peter Burge
 Richard Crawley
 Aud Enslow
 Millie Fetterhoff
 Becky Graves
 Tom Hopkins
 Grace Kane
 Tom & Mary Ellen Kelly
 Betsy Kutscher
 Day Low
 Lucy
 Menut Family
 Grace Noble
 Sean O'Neill
 Phyllis
 Kristen Quigley
 Nellie Quigley
 Melissa R.

Mickey Rassmussen
 Pamela Reo
 Paula Ritchings
 Glenn Schmours
 Chuck Shirley
 Brian Shull
 Ruth Ann Silliman
 Bill Stevens
 Edith Stewart
 Lee Stewart
 Claire & Pete Thomson
 Stephen Thomas
 Willoughby Family
 Rick Wren
 Candice Young

***“To be a Christian without
 prayer is no more possible
 than to be alive without
 breathing.”***

—Martin Luther

Noreen Anderson
 Sean Aronson
 Paul Bispo
 John Bond
 Jennifer Brady
 Helen Buckley
 Jerry Campbell
 Alfonso Cave
 Jack Cawley
 Sharon Cawley
 Darlene Clairmont
 Kylene Clemens
 Ed Correo
 Marguerite Cox
 Barbara Dean
 Deena
 Diane
 Linda & Ken Erhardt
 Scott Fair
 Morris Foreman
 Katie Fransen
 Fred

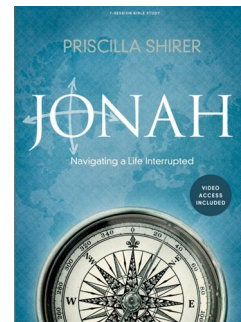
Joanne Olson Finnorn
 Beth & JR Freder-
 iksen
 Lynn Garno
 Timothy Gause
 Maleila Gonzalez
 Chris Gorman
 Norm Halvorsen
 Randolph Hardy
 Diane Hendricksen
 Bertha Hendrickson
 Bobby Hyatt
 Bob Irish
 Sherry Jackson
 Barbara Johnson
 Lynn Shineman Juhl
 Joe Kenney
 Kerry
 Patsy Kleeman
 Lori Kleiman
 Cheryl Kemmer
 Jim Kuzmanovich

Grant Liples
 Helen Lofsten
 Tim Long
 Sue Marshall
 Mike
 Phyllis Minos
 Karl Nettles
 Dylan Nerud
 Mike Noble
 Ed & Terry Owen
 Daniel Painter
 Joe Parra
 Pat & Paul
 Diane Plesser
 Sharon Polus
 Linda Raffa
 Tom Rasswell
 Karin Rokjar
 Gail Schoenwisner
 Lorraine Souch
 Sonja

Denise Stevens
 Karyn Thomas
 Jeff Tuckey
 Cindi Valli
 Greg Valli
 Candace Welsch
 Joel Weiss
 Barbara West
 Cathy Willoughby
 Earl Winblad
 Irene Winton
 Bill Wojcik
 Ralph Wright
 Norman Zanchettin

BIBLE STUDY

STARTING
FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2024
"JONAH"
10:00 AM—12:00 NOON



**STUDY WILL BE AT
THE LODGE IN OTOW.**

**If you wish to join the study,
Please contact Shirl at:
Matz@gmail.com or 330-815-3626.
(She has to provide a list for the Gate.)**

Interruptions. They're aggravating. Sometimes infuriating. But how we handle interruptions actually tells us more about ourselves. What do we do when God interrupts our lives? Many times, like Jonah, we run!

In this 7-session Bible study, Priscilla Shirer redefines interruption and shows that interruption is actually God's invitation to do something beyond our wildest dreams. When Jonah was willing to allow God to interrupt his life, the result was revival in an entire city. Like Jonah, we too have an interrupted life. When we see God's action as divine intervention rather than life interruption, we begin to experience the significant life God has for us.



WELCA Ladies

**Our next meeting/luncheon will be held on
Thursday, May 16, 2024 at 11:30am.**

Our guest speaker will be Deputy John Remington from the Marion County Sheriff's Department. He will be discussing safety issues for our ladies as well as scams we need to be aware of in our community and the world.

Please come for this informative topic.

MAY

2024

SUN	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Joyful Hands-9A Happy Hands-9:30 A Choir 3:30 PM Worship Service 5:30P	2 LMM -7:30-9:00A Stewardship 3:00 PM (SH)	3 TOPS-8-10 A Bell Choir-10 A "Jonah" Bible Study -10-12 OTOW	4 Family Fun Day 9:30A-1:00 P Blood Drive 8:00am-2:00pm
5 Worship services 8:15 & 11:00 A Christian Ed - 9:45 A	6 Member Care-2:30 W & M-6:30P	7 BULLETIN DEADLINE	8 Joyful Hands-9A Happy Hands-9:30 A Choir 3:30 PM Worship Service 5:30P	9	10 TOPS-8-10 A Bell Choir-10 A "Jonah" Bible Study -10-12 OTOW	11
12 Worship services 8:15 & 11:00 A	13 Stephen Ministry-9:30 A	14 BULLETIN DEADLINE Property 10 A Finance-1P Outreach 3:30 P	15 TIDINGS DEADLINE Joyful Hands-9A Happy Hands-9:30 A Choir 3:30 PM Worship Service	16 WELCA BRUNCH 11:30 AM Council Exec Bd 3:00 PM	17 TOPS-8-10 A Bell Choir-10 A "Jonah" Bible Study -10-12 OTOW	18
19 Worship services 8:15 & 11:00 A Concert-Steel Drum Band-3P	20	21 BULLETIN DEADLINE Council 1P	22 Joyful Hands-9A Happy Hands-9:30 A Choir 3:30 PM Worship Service 5:30 PM	23	24 TOPS-8-10 A Bell Choir-10 A "Jonah" Bible Study -10-12 OTOW	25
26 Worship services 8:15 & 11:00 A	27 Stephen Ministry-9:30 A	28 BULLETIN DEADLINE Tidings Angels-9:30 A	29 Joyful Hands-9A Happy Hands-9:30 A Choir 3:30 PM Worship Service 5:30 PM Interfaith Dinner	30	31 TOPS-8-10 A Bell Choir-10 A "Jonah" Bible Study -10-12 OTOW	

Please remember the deadline for the Bulletin is 8:00 am Tuesdays, and the TIDINGS is 8:00 am 15th. Please send "Copy" ready items so they can be inserted into the bulletin/Tidings to office email. *Thank You*



Contact Us

7045 SW 83rd Place
Ocala, FL 34476
Phone: 352.854.4509
Fax: 352.854.4845
email: joyocalafl@gmail.com
www.joylcoala.org
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Ocala, FL
Non-Profit
Organization



2024

*Our vision:
"Joy is a spiritual community sharing
the love of Christ in a challenging
world".*

