

# TIDINGS OF JOY

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2024

Inside this issue:



*LOVE, LISTEN, LEARN, LEAD*



Staff & Council Members, Birthdays	2
Anniversaries	3
Council News	4
Season's of Joy	6
Looking Ahead Sept. Bible Readings	7
Stewardship	8
LMM	10
Tutoring	11
JOY Luncheon Outreach	12
JOY August Calendar	13

*“One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple.” (Psalm 27:4)*

Dear JOYful Family,

When we consider King David, we imagine a young man who was fearless. I mean, going up against the most fearsome, hugest Philistine in Goliath? Come on! His confidence was in the Lord. The first three verses of this famous psalm that he wrote have given all of us great courage in the face of trials and adversity. They are “go to” words when we don’t know what else to say to ourselves or someone we care about who’s going through it.

Our confidence is in Christ alone. Even so, there are so many times when we backslide into fear and anxiety. What we don’t know, what we can’t control, scares us. Thanks be to God that He always knows what’s happening and, if we are willing to trust, He stands ready to rescue, to save. His holy house is a place of refuge and strength. Our sanctuaries and temples, like all else that is man-made, will crumble and fall. Re-

*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-Vacant

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



<i>DATE</i>	<i>NAME</i>
<i>09/01</i>	<i>Norman Halvorsen</i>
<i>09/02</i>	<i>Shirley Matz</i>
<i>09/04</i>	<i>Arlene Simons</i>
<i>09/08</i>	<i>Hank Groth</i>
<i>09/09</i>	<i>Art Wuertz</i>
<i>09/10</i>	<i>Paula Stevens</i>
<i>09/13</i>	<i>Earl Winblad</i>
<i>09/15</i>	<i>Robert Miller</i>
<i>09/17</i>	<i>Patricia VanEffen</i>
<i>09/20</i>	<i>John Brokaw</i>
<i>09/21</i>	<i>Kris Raica</i>
<i>09/22</i>	<i>Carolyn Salzlein</i>
<i>09/23</i>	<i>Grace Noble</i>
	<i>Jeanne Snyder</i>
<i>09/26</i>	<i>Ruth Ann Silliman</i>
<i>09/27</i>	<i>Dick Charcalla</i>
	<i>J.R. Frederiksen</i>
<i>09/29</i>	<i>Ralph Wright</i>
<i>09/30</i>	<i>Paul Silliman</i>

*Continued from Page 1*

call Jesus' response to the disciples when they commented on the greatness of the temple in Jerusalem. Our Lord's prophecy came true as he said that it would all be rubble. Still, we come to the house of worship and praise with all that we are, all that we have: our fears, guilt, and failings. Our sorrows and joys.

We are back to school, and hopefully back to church. Always pray for opportunities to bear witness and to re-present Christ. There are many souls who got "burned" by church, made to feel less than because of past behaviors, body ink, and even attire. With joy and gladness, we can offer the beauty of the Lord that sees the beauty in us. Even when we are afraid or our faith falters. Bring your burdens, your cares, and your cumber that it may be shared in the assembly. Cultivating and sustaining our relationships with each other and with God is the essence of Christian fellowship and community.

See you in church! *Love, Pastor Art*



<i>DATE</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>YRS</i>
<i>09/06</i>	<i>Lee &amp; Dorie Bay</i>	<i>55 yrs.</i>
<i>09/09</i>	<i>Terri &amp; Rich Feeley</i>	<i>57 yrs.</i>
<i>09/14</i>	<i>William &amp; Kathy Berlin</i>	<i>56 yrs.</i>
<i>09/20</i>	<i>Jill &amp; Al Davis</i>	<i>26 yrs.</i>
	<i>Dennis &amp; Nancy Christianson</i>	<i>55 yrs.</i>
<i>09/25</i>	<i>Lynneer &amp; Rebecca Spees</i>	<i>54 yrs.</i>

## Joy Church Council News

By Ray Ihlenburg, President, Joy Church Council

COUNCIL

### Gratitude Sunday Is Coming October 13!

Gratitude Sunday will be an exciting day in the life of our church, where we express our gratitude to the Lord and celebrate our generosity. We will also make our 2025 financial commitments to support God's work through Joy. This is an exciting opportunity to say, "We stand in solidarity with a family of believers, in pursuit of the same vision to love God and love people in the name of our Lord."

Gratitude is a transformative attitude. It helps us to shift from looking at what we don't have to seeing the abundance of blessings around us. In our gratitude we choose to recognize and appreciate the goodness and faithfulness of God in every aspect of our lives, in good times as well as during times of trial. As a response to our gratitude we develop a 'heart for generosity' and a desire to help others.

Acts of generosity help us grow in our faith, and grow in our trust in the Lord. We trust that the Lord will provide all that we need, so we, in turn, are free to become generous with others. By committing to support God's work in our church, we are saying we want to be a part of something larger than ourselves.

***Your gifts support God's work through Joy!***

Joy has big plans for next year! Fabulous Concerts with BIG NAMES - Expanded Bell Choir – Music Ensembles for 8:15am services – Eucharistic Ministers and more care for our members – More programs for kids! – Property enhancements – Outreach. Outreach. Outreach. We are sharing the Love of Christ in so many ways!

On Gratitude Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, we will have ONE SERVICE at 10:00 AM with a Luncheon at The Lodge at Candler Hills in OTOW immediately following. During the worship service, we will make our 2025 financial commitments. Completing a commitment card is voluntary. You may choose not to complete a commitment card, this is totally up to you. Whether you plan to make your commitment on Gratitude Sunday, or not, I hope you will participate in the events of the day.

IN CLOSING, may we pause to count our blessings, expressing gratitude to God and to the people around us. In every season let's remember that gratitude is not just a momentary feeling but a way of life. As we live with hearts full of gratitude, we will experience joy, contentment, and a deep relationship with our loving Father.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in the Gratitude Sunday events. May your generous hearts continue to bring joy to others, knowing that God's blessings are abundant!

It is going to be a wonderful day!

## INTERN'S CORNER



Greetings from Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Do any of you remember the song by the Tempos “See you in September”?

This song resonates for me every year that the month of September comes around. You see, a dear friend’s life ended at 16 years old due to drugs that led to hepatitis and her passing. Lisa loved that song but I never knew why. I still do not know but 56 years later I may have uncovered, not what it meant for Lisa but what it now means for me and hopefully for you. Long distant relationships with God by taking the summer off from Worship can cause potential dangers that arise over our time away from God. The summer months have a way of sayings to us “Don’t worry about attending Worship, enjoy the time off: you always go to church. It’s ok to take a break”. Hence: “See you in September, God”. Well my good people, God never takes time off and even though we might do so, He waits for our return. “It’s not easy being a Christian”: but for the one(+)(-) hour a week in the Sanctuary seeking forgiveness and praising His Name, must be a part of who we are. We are the Community of Faith, Hope and Trust.

Peace of the Lord be with all of you,

Bob

## JUST A HEADS UP!

**Our last summer worship schedule Sunday  
(1 service-10:00 AM) will be on September the 1st.**

**Our REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE resumes on  
Sunday, September 8, 2024  
with services at 8:15 and 11:00 am.  
Please mark your calendars accordingly!**



# Seasons of JOY

## Concert Series

*presents*

# Uniquulele

Join us for our 2024-25 season opener when we welcome Uniquulele to the stage! Uniquulele is a 5-member ukulele band that will be presenting a fun program of music including rock, pop, country/western,



folk, and more (but probably NO Hawaiian music!). In addition to the ukuleles you may hear harmonica, ocarina, flute, cowbell, and more!

Admission is free (with a voluntary love offering) and a reception will be held post-concert so you can interact with the performers!

**September 8, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary**

**at JOY Lutheran Church**

**7045 SW 83rd Place, Ocala, FL 34476**

# LOOKING AHEAD!



## NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

***Beginning SEPTEMBER 15th, at 9:45 AM***  
 Pastor Art will be leading a class titled:  
**“The Present Future”,** based on the  
 writings and teachings of church leader-  
 ship specialist Reggie McNeal. It ties in  
 with our congregation’s vision.

### SUNDAY BIBLE READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

SUNDAY	FIRST READING	PSALM	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
01-Sep	DEUTERONOMY	PSALM 15	JAMES	MARK
	4:1-2, 6-9	Entirety	1:17-27	7:1-8,14-15,21-23
08-Sep	ISAIAH	PSALM 146	JAMES	MARK
	35:4-7a	Entirety	2:1-10[11-13]14-17	7:24-37
15-Sep	ISAIAH	PSALM 116	JAMES	MARK
	50:4-9a	1--9	3:1-12	8:27-38
22-Sep	JEREMIAH	PSALM 54	JAMES	MARK
	11:18-20	Entirety	3:13--4:3,7-8a	9:30-37
29-Sep	NUMBERS	PSALM 19	JAMES	MARK
	11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29	7-14	5:13-20	9:38-50

## YOUR GENEROUS COMMITMENT TO JOY! IS MAKING A BIG DIFFERENCE IN PEOPLE'S LIVES

### “SEASONS OF JOY” CONCERT SERIES

- WOW! The Concerts have brought hundreds of new people into our worship space!
- Headliners coming up next season:
  - Thomas Keesecker, nationally acclaimed church music composer
  - April Adams, oboe and flute
  - Blue Muse Jazz Band from Jacksonville
  - Suncoast Bronze Ringers, handbell ensemble from Tampa.
  - And some great entertainment from our Joy musicians!
- Thanks to the proceeds from our initial concerts, we've added octave of handbells, and a complete refurbishment of our existing bells.
- We hope to add a choir or ensemble for our 8:15am worship.

### MEMBER CARE

Expanded care for members

- Training more Eucharistic Ministers to provide Holy Communion for those unable to attend worship.
- New ideas are in the works to care for our members who need a little extra help.

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

New educational opportunities to share the love of Christ

- Intern Bob Bonomo's Bible Study for Beginners is enJOY!ed by many.
- Our off-campus Women's Bible Study is reaching not only our members, but those without a church home.
- Sunday School for adults! Starting Soon!

### OUTREACH

Outreach is on fire! Our generosity overflows!

- Feeding people in need once a month at Interfaith. Our food pantry closet keeps refilling.
- Gathering school supplies for Tools 4 Teaching Store.
- Helping at Wear Gloves Ministry, Arnette House.
- Providing space for several recovery groups, some who have joined our congregation.
- Our tutoring program called JOY!Ful Tuesdays.
- Vacation Bible School for the first time in, like, forever!

**With GRATITUDE in our hearts, we are generously sharing Christ's love by cultivating a spiritual community in a challenging world. Next Year we can do more. Please consider expanding your commitment in 2025 so we can make an even greater impact.**

**Gratitude Sunday is October 13<sup>th</sup>  
Worship at 10:00 AM followed by a celebration luncheon at  
The Lodge in Candler Hills**





**Gratitude Sunday is Coming October 13<sup>th</sup>!!!**

**Gratitude**

*We have gratitude to our Lord for all our blessings. Research shows gratitude is the single most powerful method of increasing happiness. Out of our gratitude we give to others and support Joy ministries and missions.*

**Please make your RESERVATION for the GRATITUDE LUNCHEON on Sunday, October 13, 2024 at 11:30am**  
(immediately following the special 10:00am service).

Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> we will present our 2025 commitments to the Lord at the altar during the service. Immediately following the Special 10:00 am Service we invite you to join us for a Luncheon at the Candler Hills Lodge in OTOW.

Whether you choose to complete a commitment card or not, please attend the Luncheon and join in our Gratitude celebration. It's going to be a wonderful day!

***We are grateful for you.***

Complete this short reservation form and bring it to a Worship Service or the Church Office to exchange it for a TICKET to the event.

**Reservations start September 8<sup>th</sup>!**

**Gratitude Luncheon RESERVATION - Please PRINT CLEARLY**

Name/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of guests: \_\_\_\_\_

**DO YOU LIVE IN OTOW?** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If you do not live in OTOW the gates will have your name on a list for admittance.

Special dietary considerations:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Reservations must be returned by September 30, 2024.**

# **Men's Breakfast**

## **September 5, 9:15am**

**Attendance at Our Lutheran Men In Mission Fellowship has suffered greatly since before, during and Now after Covid.**

**Brothers Please consider joining us for a morning of information, food & Christian Fellowship.**

**Full Breakfast by: Pastor Art & Ken C.**

**September Guest Speaker**

**Wesley Wilcox**

**Supervisor for The Marion County**

**Board of Elections**

**Q & A after Mr. Wilcox talk**

# FREE PRIVATE TUTORING

## *JOYful" Tuesday*

If your child needs some help with their schoolwork, JOY's vetted volunteers will be offering **FREE Tutoring on our campus starting TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2024**

Tutoring sessions are **1 hour long.**

**Grades K-4**

Times available are **3-4 pm or 4-5 pm.**

Parents must provide transportation.

**Location:**

**Joy Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**Swenson Hall**

**7045 SW 83<sup>rd</sup> Pl**

**Ocala, FL 34476**

**Tel: 352-854-4509**

email: [joyocalafl@gmail.com](mailto:joyocalafl@gmail.com)

web: [joylocala.org](http://joylocala.org)

**Office Hours: Mon-Thur 8am-3:30 pm**



# SLOPPY JOE SUNDAY

is our next JOY Luncheon!

Sunday, September 22, 2024—12:15pm  
(Right after 11 am service)

Join us for a light lunch and a time to sit and mingle with one another. Invite some friends to worship with us, and join us in breaking bread! Sign up sheets are in the Narthex and the Office.

What a great way to keep old friendships and make new ones!

**OUTREACH & EVANGELISM MINISTRY  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH, 3:30  
IN THE NARTHEX**

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



2024

SUN	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1 Worship services 10:00 AM	2 Time4Prayer-9 am Member Care-2:30	3 <b>BULLETIN DEADLINE</b> Beginner's Bible Study 11AM JOY!Formation 10 am , 6 pm	4 Joyful Hands 9:30 Happy Hands-9:30 Choir 3:30 PM SVC 5:30 PM	5 LMM-9:15AM Christian Ed 11 Stewardship 3P	6 TOPS-7:30A Bell Choir 10 A	7 Worship & Music 1:00 PM	
8 Worship services 8:15 & 11 AM New Member Sunday CONCERT 3PM Uniquele	9 Time 4 Prayer-9AM Stephen Ministry 9:30 AM	10 <b>BULLETIN DEADLINE</b> Property 10 AM Beginner's Bible Study 11AM Finance 1 PM Outreach 3:30 PM TUTORING 3-5 p	11 Joyful Hands 9:30 Happy Hands-9:30 Choir 3:30 PM SVC 5:30 PM	12 Council Exec Bd 3 pm	13 TOPS-7:30A Bell Choir 10 A	14	
15 Worship services 8:15 & 11 AM The Present Future Bible Study 9:45 AM	16 <b>TIDINGS DEADLINE</b> Time 4 Prayer 9 am	17 <b>BULLETIN DEADLINE</b> Beginner's Bible Council 1 PM TUTORING 3-5 PM	18 Joyful Hands 9:30 Happy Hands-9:30 Choir 3:30 PM SVC 5:30 PM	19 Charette Mtg. 10 am	20 TOPS-7:30A Bell Choir 10 A	21 Community Bell Choir Organizational Meeting 1:00 PM	
22 Worship services 8:15 & 11 AM The Present Future Bible Study 9:45 AM Sloppy Joe Sun. Luncheon 12	23 Time 4 Prayer 9 am Stephen Ministry—9:30 A	24 <b>BULLETIN DEADLINE</b> Beginner's BS—11:00 AM Pineland Ministerial Meeting TUTORING 3-5 P	25 Joyful Hands 9:30 Happy Hands-9:30 Choir 3:30 PM SVC 5:30 PM	26 Publicity & Soc. Med. 1P	27 TOPS-7:30A Bell Choir 10 A	28 PINELANDS CONF. & LUNCH 9 AM Church/SH	
29 HYMN SING Interfaith Dinner Worship SVC: 8:15 & 11 AM Bible Study 9:45 AM	30 Time 4 Prayer 9 am	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p>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. <i>Thank You</i></p> </div>					



Contact Us

7045 SW 83rd Place  
Ocala, FL 34476  
Phone: 352.854.4509  
Fax: 352.854.4845  
email: joyocalafl@gmail.com  
www.joylcoala.org  
www.facebook.com/joylutheranchurch.ocala



2024

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

S. W. 80th Street



JOY Lutheran Church

S. W. 83rd Place



S. R. 200

4.5 Miles to I-75

Paddock Downs Homes

4.5 Miles to County Hwy 484