

JOY!FUL NOISE

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth... Psalm 98:4



"Out Live Your Life" Worship Series

From the very start of the church, the ordinary followers of Christ were pushed out of their shells so they could break down walls and change the world. God wants to unshell us in the same way. We will discover in the book of Acts how the earliest Christians made a difference in their world, and find out how we can do the same.

Because *when kind eyes meet desperate ones, when strong hands help weak ones, that's when God's miracles begin.* That's how we start to outlive our lives.

- May 1
Making Life Count
- May 8
The Poor as Priority
- May 15
Breaking Down Walls
- May 22
For All the Right Reasons

Coming up at Joy!

- April 16 - Identity Theft workshop w/ shredding truck
- May 7 - Women's Retreat from 8:30am - 4pm
- May 14 - Starting Point new member class at 9am
- May 16 - 1st Communion class at 7pm
- May 21 - Youth fundraiser "Dinner Dance" at 6pm

"Whom are you looking for?" John 20:15

Easter is coming soon. We look forward to it with the anticipation that again this year it provides the pinnacle of the story of Jesus and of our worship. During Lent we have had the opportunity to consider many of the questions of Jesus. His questions transformed those to whom he spoke and they continue to transform us.

Mary Magdalene was transformed by Jesus' questions, teaching and ministry. Her love for him brought her to his tomb after his crucifixion looking for him. But what she would encounter would change her dramatically... first an empty tomb and then a resurrected Jesus. It was news that would change the world and she would be the first to share it.

"Whom are you looking for?" was the question Jesus asked Mary and it is a question this Easter that we are being asked. Like Mary we come seeking Jesus, but like Mary, Jesus comes to us with the surprising, overflowing, unexpected love and grace of God. Sin and death no longer has power over us. Christ is alive and what could not keep him in the grave will not keep us in the grave.

(adapted from "The Questions of Jesus" by Robert Driver-Bishop)

Staffing Plans and Current Changes

In March, after much prayer and discernment, and many hours of planning, the Congregation Council introduced a new organizational structure based on the "UP, IN and OUT" relational concept. UP is our relationship with God. IN is our relationship our faith community. OUT is our relationship with a world of people. Our UP ministries include the Children and Youth Ministries, Adult Discipleship and Worship. IN includes all of our relational ministries from Hospitality to Small Groups and community events. Our OUT ministries are all the service ministries that reach out into the community and world.

Along with this change has come a plan for staffing which includes some immediate changes:

Cheryl O'Neill will be transitioning out of her role as 1st Impressions Coordinator.

We thank her for her service in this area. She will continue to lead Kids Adventure Klub and will take on additional responsibilities related to families. Her new role will be Director of Children and Family Ministries. Council will have more to share as this new role is developed and implemented.

The Administrative Assistant positions are also in transition. To be a better fit with our new organizational model, there are changes coming that will allow this role to better serve Joy! and further our mission. The Council has decided to add additional office hours and the current job responsibilities are being aligned to one staff person in that role. We are presently in an interview process and looking at both internal and external candidates. This obviously impacts our current Administrative Assistants, Deanna Horne and Ann Bowman. We thank them for their passionate service at Joy!.

Lastly, based on the UP, IN and OUT organizational model, one of our future staffing goals is to have a full-time paid staff member in each of those ministry areas.

Currently, Jenelle Ancona leads our Connections Ministry and is also our Small Group Coordinator. Both of these roles fall under the IN vision and Council is pleased to share that Jenelle has agreed to take on the IN position full time and has begun here duties. As our Relational Ministries Coordinator she will continue her current roles and add hospitalities and congregational events.

OUTLIVE YOUR LIFE!!!!!!!

When you look at all the things happening around the world today- the fighting, the billions of people who are poor, the thousands of lives claimed by disease, the many natural disasters & their impact, and the millions who go hungry do you think "How can I make a difference?" "How do we live in such a way that the world will be glad we did?"

Joy! will be offering several ways to take part to explore this topic and take part in this church wide focus event. You can do the following:

1. Attend worship each Sunday in May to hear sermons focus on the Outlive Your Life series of topics.
2. Come explore this DVD guided program that has teachings by Max Lucado & real life stories of people who have made an impact in their communities and in the world around them with small groups - sharing open discussions with others. Sign ups for groups to join are displayed in the lobby.
3. Purchase the hardback book by Max Lucado and read at your own pace the book that inspired this series – will be sold at Joy! for 15.00/each.

For more information contact Relational Ministries Coordinator, Jenelle Ancona at Jenelle.ancona@joylutheran.org

First Impressions Ministry From the desk of Cheryl O'Neill

I love this time of year. When we "spring forward" to daylight savings time I know that spring is right around the corner. Spring is a time when things outside change...it is a little warmer, trees and flowers are budding...you can even smell "spring" in the air. We get to use all the senses God gave us and watch as His creation changes. The same goes for Joy! We are in the season of Lent. A time to reflect on how blessed we are both personally and spiritually. How God gave His only son, Jesus, for us! How powerful is that!!!

I would, like to take this opportunity to thank all the faithful servants who have served as communion servers, usher, greeters and brought refreshments during these winter months. As we move forward this spring...and look to Holy Week and Easter, we have many areas that still need attention.

- We need volunteers to help as communion servers, greeters, ushers, and bring refreshments each week.
- We need servant hands to help set up during Holy Week on Wednesday following Stations of the Cross, Thursday following Maundy Thursday Service and on Saturday morning.

We are also asking for help with food donations for our Easter Sunday breakfast and hands to help with preparing food, kitchen help & take down. Sign up sheets are available on the kiosk.

I am so excited to watch the people of Joy! grow in our relationship with each other and our Lord and Savior. I hope God takes your heart during this Lenten Season and draws you close as we move forward with our mission together "So that Lives are Changed!!! May you have a very blessed Easter.

Faith, Fellowship and Finding Fun Things

God Fella's small group is looking for volunteers to help pick up trash along a stretch of Route 120.

Saturday, April 16, 2011

9:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Clean up trash on Rte. 120 between Rte. 21 to the East and Mill Road to the West.

Bring gloves and wear boots. Trash bags and safety vests are provided.

You'll be paired up with experienced Trash Collectors!

You can keep any good stuff you find!!

As always, there will plenty of fun had by all!!

A sign up sheet is posted in the lobby.

Questions?

Contact Pat O'Neill at 224-383-5014

Generous Life

Principle: Don't trust in your riches, but trust in God.

Those who trust in their riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive like a green leaf.

Proverbs 11:28

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. 1

Timothy 6:17

Jesus - "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God." John 14:1

If I have put my trust in gold or said to pure gold, 'You are my security,' if I have rejoiced over my great wealth, the fortune my hands had gained, if I have regarded the sun in its radiance or the moon moving in splendor, so that my heart was secretly enticed and my hand offered them a kiss of homage, then these also would be sins to be judged, for I would have been unfaithful to God on high. Job 31:24-28

Are you rich? Did you realize that if you personally make more than \$1500 per year you are richer than 75% of the world's 6+ billion people? To find out how your income compares to everyone else in the world go to www.globalrichlist.com.

Staff Update

Deanna Horne has served faithfully as an Administrative Assistant on the Joy! staff for the past ten years. She has decided to not apply for the new administrative position created in the staffing plan. Deanna's final day was April 8th. We are so blessed by and thankful for Deanna's service and passion for the Joy! mission.

Youth Director / Search Team Update

On March 20, Pastor Scott commissioned a team of individuals who had been prayerfully selected to serve as part of the search team to bring a new Director of Youth Ministries to Joy! Co-leading the effort will be Betsy Wehde and Neal Johnson, with team members Pat DeBreau, Kevin Belles, Alyssa Wilt and Ian Anderson. They have begun working through the process of reviewing resumes, scheduling interviews of qualified candidates, and ultimately putting together an offer to the person that God has called to serve as a full time Director of Youth Ministries and member of the staff at Joy! Please keep this team wrapped in prayer as they move forward in finding the right person to lead the middle school, and high school youth of our church.

PADS Volunteers in action

Thank you to all who volunteered in March. The **Wednesday Women** small group took on the challenge of preparing and serving dinner. These first-timers' taco casserole was a big hit as many guests returned for second helpings. After dinner some youth volunteers played games with the children. We thank God for the service of volunteers who faithfully return each month to provide a home-like experience for guests.

Joy!fully serving Our Lord,

Angie List Sheets & Jean Hackbert

PADS Volunteer Appreciation Event

A pessimist, they say, sees a glass of water as being half empty. An optimist sees the same glass as half full. But a P.A.D.S. volunteer sees a glass of water and starts looking for someone who might be thirsty.

P.A.D.S. Crisis Services, Inc.
Volunteer Appreciation Event

Monday May 2, 2011
6-7:30 p.m.

Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church
Dinner and Awards

Book sale and signing: meet Stephanie Arado, the author of "The Power of PADS." It's written from a child's point of view, about mother/daughter experiences helping at P.A.D.S. The cost is \$5 with \$1 going to our Grayslake P.A.D.S. **Please R.S.V.P. by April 25** to 847 689 4357, ext. 302 or use the sign-up sheet on the Joy! kiosk. Due to limited space this event is only for volunteers. Thank you for understanding.

COOL FOOD PANTRY- Thank you Joy! for your donations of "Dollars for Easter Meals". The donations totaled \$375 which will help the food pantry provide meals to those in need this Easter season.

Thanks so much for your generosity! Spirit of Sojourners small group will be collecting Cereal for the month of April. If you wish to help, please bring your donations to church by April 24th. C.O.O.L. (Christian Outreach of Lutherans) appreciates all that Joy!! has done to help the Food Pantry. Thank You Joy!!!

Identity Theft: What you need to know

Join us for a FREE educational workshop "Identity Theft: What you need to know." This workshop is open to the public (invite a friend)! This workshop is offered through Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and designed to help participants learn:

- ◆ How identity theft can occur.
- ◆ Tips to help protect themselves.
- ◆ Steps to take if identity theft happens to them.

When: Sat., April. 16, 10-11:30 am

Where: Joy! Lutheran Church

Refreshments will be served! In addition, a shredding truck will be available in the parking lot at Joy! from 9 to 10 am so you can get rid of all those unwanted paper documents!

To register: Sign up in the lobby at Joy! or contact the church office at 847-362-4569 by April 10.

Donations needed for April PADS breakfasts and lunches

If you wish to donate food for April meals, sign up at the Joy! kiosk. There are labels with which you can label the food and an info sheet with delivery details.

Holy Week Schedule

Wednesday, April 20

Stations of the Cross

Thursday, April 21

Maundy Thursday 7pm service

Friday, April 22

Family Activities 9:30 - 11am

Good Friday 7pm service

Sunday, April 24

7:30, 9 & 10:30am services

8:30 - 11am breakfast



PandaMania

Where God is Wild about You!
Psalm 139

Joy! Lutheran's Vision for 2011 VBS

Save the date: June 13th- June 17th

Imagine...

- ...a child hearing about God's love for the first time.
- ...kids worshipping in powerful ways.
- ...children praying for each other.
- ...adults and teens modeling Jesus' love to children.
- ...kids sharing gifts of love with children who are hurting.
- ...children serving each other.

This summer, we will be transforming our church into a lush bamboo forest, overflowing with wild, wacky, mischievous pandas! Be a part of vacation Bible school at Joy! Lutheran Church during June 13th-17th from 9:00am until 12:00pm. It's our goal to reach 250 kids with this program. That's 250 kids who will grow in their relationship with God!

We're praying this awesome VBS program will touch children's hearts and lives with God's love. Help kids in our community discover that

- God made you.
- God listens to you.
- God watches over you.
- God loves you, no matter what.
- God gives good gifts.

As we plan and prepare for PandaMania, our team would cherish your prayers. Pray that God would give us wisdom in planning. Pray for the right staff members to join our team. And pray that God would begin working in the hearts of the children who will come to PandaMania!

Register today and join us in this exciting ministry event! Look for more information in the lobby late April, on the Joy! website at www.joylutheran.org, or contact Jori & Tim Maguire at jorimaguire@comcast.net. We look forward to partnering with your family this summer!

Blessings,
Cheryl O'Neill
Director of Children and Family Ministries
Cheryl.oneill@joylutheran.org

