

April

at

JOY

Alleluia Christ is Risen. Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Wow, what a week. Easter Sunday – with 80 in attendance in person and others online – capped off with the wonderful music from Catherine Conger and the Joy choir.

Rev. Bob Lawrence provided an inspirational message before we adjourned to the Fellowship Hall for a wonderful brunch.

With the glow of Easter still in our hearts, our thoughts turn to the search for a permanent minister. I think everyone would agree that Pastor Bob has been a delight in filling in as our supply pastor.

The call committee has asked the finance committee and council to undertake the task of finding a fair and equitable employment and benefit package to present to a candidate.

Our work doesn't end there though. There is much to do in and around the building at Joy. It will take a lot of effort. I am game if you are.

There are some tasks that we clearly are not capable of, such as refurbishing and striping the parking lot, which is riddled with potholes and is dangerous for some of members to try and migrate.

Updating our sign is another challenge. Replacing incorrect information is a relatively easy fix but the lights on the ground we use to illuminate the sign at night are not accomplishing the task for which they were designed.

The council devoted a portion of last month's meeting addressing possibilities of attracting new members. The first project we selected with a Blessing of our Pets. As discussion continued the thought was why not open to our immediate neighbors and have an Animal Shelter participate with a Pet Adoption.

Other ideas include a Quilt and Art Show, Bring a friend to Church, a series of major religious works, Christmas exhibit of nativity scenes in our church windows. All wonderful ideas but I would like to hear from our members, What would you like to see Joy do the remainder of 2024 and into 2025?

Feel free to email me at lynnbo12@gmail.com or call me at 918-688-3466.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Jacobsen



The Season of Easter

He is Risen!

Alleluia!

Proclamation

The season of Easter is a time when the lectionary texts highlight our connection to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ in baptism. In baptism our lives are transformed by the Easter good news and we receive the gift of new life.

Nevertheless, this new life is not without questions, doubt, suffering and struggles. Proclamation during the season of Easter provides the opportunity to examine the juxtaposition of new life in Christ with the struggles and challenges of the Christian life.

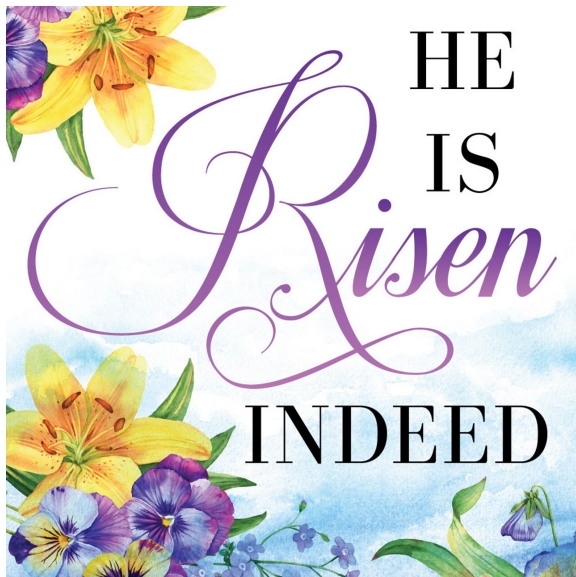
The lectionary texts proclaim in our lives the power of the resurrection that gives strength in suffering, unity in diversity, consolation in sorrow, perseverance in adversity and faith in times of doubt.

Apr 01, 2024 01:00 am

The details and differences of the Easter stories matter, but they matter most in the truth they all proclaim: The story of Easter is real, not rehearsed. It really happened – and it happened to real people, who were overwhelmed and overjoyed by the experience and only later were able to recollect and record something like an orderly account of an extraordinary day. We glimpse the power and mystery of Easter precisely where the stories seem weakest and most foolish – in the overlapping, colliding human testimonies of racing to and from the tomb, of silence and speech, of awe and terror, and finally, of a joy so new and raw that it came hand-in-hand with doubt. Could it be true? But it was – oh, it was.

And it's still true. In every part of the Easter story, we find our own diverse lives and different stories. We find a risen Savior who confounds our assumptions and overturns our expectations. We are met by the God whose power is made perfect in weakness and whose foolishness is wiser than human wisdom.

This message is excerpted from “Alleluia! Hallelujah!” by Meghan Johnston Aelabouni in the April 2018 Gather (<https://womenoftheelca.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?>



JOY'S MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND

SOLICITING GRANT REQUESTS

At the quarterly meeting of the Joy Mission Endowment Fund (MEF) committee on February 19, 2024, grant proposals and requests would be considered for approval at the committee's next meeting scheduled for May 5, 2024. Grant requests need to be **received no later than April 20, 2024.**

Grant proposals/requests must fit within one or more of the categories listed below for consideration by the Joy MEF committee. These included individuals and non-profits from the local Tulsa / regional area, special projects from the ELCA Synod where our congregation resides, ELCA churchwide ministries, and ministry initiatives within the immediate congregation.

In addition, the MEF committee is asking for donations to the fund from interested Joy congregants and other Tulsans/foundations to further advance the mission and ministry of the church. Committee members include Dorothy Constien and Barbara James, officers are Carol Rowe-Chair, Carol Bird-Financial Secretary, and Roger Meyer-Secretary.

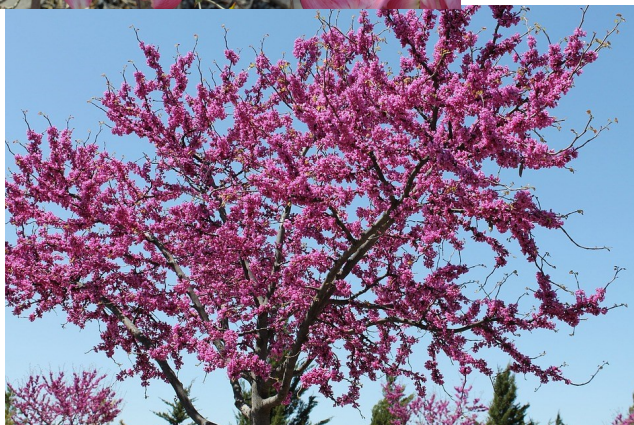
You may access the grant proposal/requests form on the Joy Lutheran website at www.JoyLutheranTulsa.org and click Resources and Mission Endowment Fund. You may also contact the church office and request the form. All grant proposals should be mailed or delivered to Carol Rowe or the church office for consideration by April 20, 2024. Questions can be directed to anyone on the Joy MEF committee.

April 2024 Celebrations



Happy April Birthday

Lila Martini	4/10
Ione Allison	4/14
Breydon Daniel	4/14
Bill Allen	4/15
Shelby Helm	4/16
Katie Donohue	4/21
Dixie Tate	4/29



Celebrate Earth Day

April 24th

Caring for God's creation is an ever-evolving topic in this world, especially with each new natural or human made disaster. As stewards of this world, we are called to care for the earth and examine our behaviors toward creation. While we need to take from the land for food and sustainability, we also need to be careful that we maintain good stewardship and do not exploit the wonderful things the earth provides.

A Thought for Joy!

Plant a redbud or a pink dogwood!

Host a tree planting! Across the country, Lutherans are working together to plant 500 trees in their synods as part of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Join this effort and get started NOW in your synod this upcoming Earth Week!



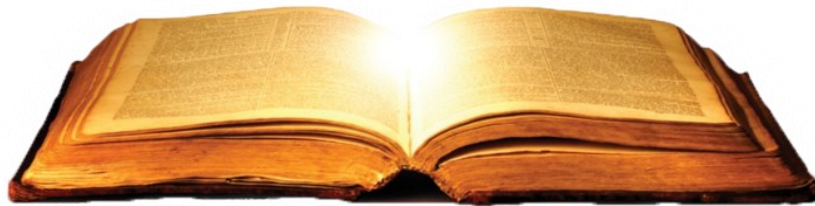
Esther Circle meets on **Thursday,**

April 11, at 10:00 a.m.

Esther Circle Bible Study for 2024 has moved to Thursday mornings.

Our study will be used from the Gather Magazine.

from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Susan Humphrey will lead Bible Study. We plan to go out for lunch after Bible study if you would like to join us!



Joy Lydia Quilters

The Lydia quilters meet on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 to 12:30. We bring a sack lunch. Some people come and work on their own craft projects & enjoy the company!!
Come on down!!

Our hands to God's work!



Mimosas and Munchies

Spring Fling Paint Party

Saturday, April 6th

at 9:30 a.m.

RSVP to Susan Humphrey

at dabblers54@gmail.com

or text/call at 918-695-4045

New/Refresher Mah Jong classes will begin

Friday, April 5 through May 5, 9-12 a.m.

Classes are no cost to Joy Members!! Class size will be from 4 to 12 people. After the training classes, you will be welcome to play on the continuing Friday's. Questions or to register contact Katherine Tooley. Registration deadline is April 2, 2024.

Call Committee Corner

Stay tuned to what's happening each month in this CCC.

Members: Susan Humphrey — Chair
Dan Norford — Co-chair/Scribe
Bonnie Peters — Deb Lovelace
Kathryn Daniel — Ione Allison
Nick Conger
Please keep us all in your prayers.



After extensive reflection and prayer and the polling of the congregation, the Call Committee is finally at the point of drafting the official version of the Ministry Site Profile! Based on the responses of the congregation, we are especially focused on finding a candidate who will both tend to the needs of the congregation (pastoral care and teaching) and reach out to the surrounding communities to spread the hope of God's grace. We thank the congregation for their feedback and patience and hope that everyone who has questions or concerns won't hesitate to get in touch with any member of the committee.

As always, we welcome all of your prayers and support as we continue to work towards finding a new pastor for Joy!

The Joy Call Committee



Youth and Adult

Sunday School

The adult class, led by Rev. Lawrence meets in Fellowship Hall.

Youth Sunday School led by Jamie Donohue meets in SS Classroom # 103.

Joy Choir

Joy Lutheran Choir meets on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. and sings music at services twice a month. Choir will continue to practice through Wednesday, May 15th. **ALL are welcome!**



Joy Connections



**Joy's Food Chest for the Jenks Community
Food Bank Current
requested items as of 3-1-2024**

Canned Fruit—Canned Chicken

Pasta Sauce—Tomato Soup

Jelly

“Helping to feed those in need”

Thank you Joy members that contribute and thank you to Michael Mueller for delivery several times each month!

**March 2, 2024: 25 pounds
March 23, 2024: 80 pounds**

Hello Joy Members!

This newsletter is created monthly to announce activities, spread information and give us thoughts to ponder.

How can you help?

Please consider adding photos of Joy activities, special announcements and items of interest.

Send any input to Sarah in the office at

Office@joylutherantulsa.org

or call 918-299-3292

Operation Hope Prison Ministry Mission Statement

To provide services to the men, women and children impacted by incarceration. We offer support to this population to lower recidivism rates and the incidence of first-time offenders among their children, ultimately reducing the crime and violence that threaten neighborhoods and families.

Items needed for families and individuals coming out of prison and getting back into the community.



Deodorant - Shampoo
Conditioner - Body lotion
Moisturizers - Bar soap
Shower gels - Toothbrushes
Toothpaste

Finance Report

Finance Committee Meeting

The next meeting of the Joy Lutheran Church Finance Committee will be held on **Tuesday evening, April 9th at 6:30 p.m.**



Financial Report: The financial summary of contributions and expenses for the month of February and year to date.

	February 2024	01 January-YTD 2024
Giving	8,790	41,943
Expense	12,327	21,161
Income (Loss)	(3,537)	20,782



ARKANSAS-OKLAHOMA SYNOD
God's Grace In Motion

**heart of
worship**



2024 Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod Assembly

The Assembly will begin Friday, May 3rd at 2 p.m.
and concludes Sunday, May 5th at 3 p.m.

Lila Martini & Deanna Rabara will represent Joy.



**Our next monthly Joy Council meeting is Sunday, April 21st
immediately after Worship.**

2024 Joy Lutheran Council:

(L to R)

Lynn Jacobsen - President

Sara Richers - Vice President

Brenda Baker - Secretary

David Humphrey - Treasurer

Donna Gould

Nancy Sies (Not pictured)

Michelle Staedeli

Church Staff:

Reverend Bob Lawrence: Interim Supply Pastor

Catherine Conger — Director of Music

Sarah Smith — Office Manager

Church Office Hours: Mon.—Thur. from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Church office phone: 918-299-3292