



***“Celebrating and
Sharing the Love of
Jesus Christ”***

**January/February
2018**

Annual Meeting: Sunday, January 28, 2018

8:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Annual Meeting

New Hopes for a New Year

It was exactly a year ago that we were traveling from Virginia to Oklahoma to begin our ministry with you here in South Tulsa. In that short time we’ve really just hardly gotten to know one another—my family and yours—and I am grateful to each of you for being open to us, our gifts and our quirks. I haven’t yet had time to sit with each of you individually, and so I begin a new year with the idea that this will be the year I’ll make it around to everyone one-on-one. Hope springs eternal!

We’re also just beginning to listen together to what God is calling Joy to be and do in our corner of South Tulsa. We’ve taken a close look at our core values and reached out to build relationships with neighboring congregations and other organizations. We’ve identified Jenks East Elementary as a place to get to know and to be known in our immediate neighborhood. We’ve signed on with Family Promise of Tulsa County as a way to work with others to address family homelessness across the area. We’ve also started a series of low-key fellowship events to create new entry points and invitation opportunities here at Joy.

Above all, we’re asking together, where do God’s gifts revealed in and through us match up best with the needs of those in our community? We cannot be all things, but we are becoming more fully who God is calling us to be, freed by God’s grace to love and serve others.

-- Pastor Jon



New Member Sunday Coming on January 21

Please join us as we welcome two new members to the community of Joy Lutheran Church on Sunday, January 21 at our 11:00 a.m. service. We will celebrate during worship and afterwards at coffee hour.

Interested in Membership?

Talk to Sister Jennie if you are curious or interested in joining our church. There will be other opportunities to join soon.

2018 Family Promise of Tulsa County Interfaith Hospitality Network Participants



Family Promise of Tulsa County recently signed its 13th Host Congregation and is now looking for a day center and office space. When that is secured, it will be time to hire an executive director and begin the work of directly addressing family homelessness in the area. Stay tuned for more details!

In the picture are pastors and leaders participating in Family Promise.

Thank you for all the children, youth and adults that participated in and helped with the *A Wonderful Night Christmas Program & Worship Service*. What fun it was to observe so many working together from music, to costumes, to helping kids with lines, creating programs, adapting worship and creating props to share the best story of all. It was a great to see the smiles and enthusiasm in the children and youth faces during the performance as they retold the story of our Savior's birth as written in the words of Joy Lutheran senior Ben Reyes! Ben wrote the script as a confirmation student several years ago.

-- Stephanie Mueller



Joy's HEROES

**Calling all heroes for our
Annual Valentine's Dinner!**

**Put on your capes and buy your tickets for
our Joy Valentine's Dinner and Trivia Night.**

**Sunday, February 11 at 5:00 p.m. at Joy
Lutheran Church**

**Tickets are \$20 each or \$100 for a table of 6
for sale after worship on January 28 and
February 4 or via email at
aliciadcm@sbcglobal.net**

**Prizes for Best Individual Costume and Best
Team Costume**

Family Art Night, Monday, February 5, 2018

Kids in kindergarten through fifth grade and an adult are invited to Family Art Night on the first Mondays of every month from 6:00-7:00 p.m. at Joy Lutheran Church.



Please RSVP by February 1

Family Art Nights are free & taught by an art teacher, but space is limited and requires an RSVP to Joy Lutheran Church (joyartnight@gmail.com or 918-299-3292).

In your RSVP email, please include the following information:

- ~ Adult(s) name(s) (need to stay with child(ren))**
- ~ Child(ren) name(s), age(s), and school(s)**
- ~ Phone number and email in case of cancellation**

If you can't attend and would like to be on email list for future free food or art events please sent contact info to the email address above.

Spiritual Gifts! A New Sunday School Class during February

Join Susan & David Humphrey and Sister Jennie in the sanctuary each Sunday in February as we dive into learning about the meaning of Spiritual Gifts from the Apostle Paul. We'll also have a chance to discover what each of our own gifts are and how we are called to share them in our church community and beyond! We will start on February 4, 2018.

Road to Houston

Help our youth get to the National Youth Gathering by sponsoring a mile for \$10. The more miles you sponsor, the faster they get to the ELCA Youth Gathering. Find the board next to the mailboxes in the Education Wing. Bring completed and filled envelopes and/or questions to Alicia Urban.



Thanks for Caroling With Us!



Thanks to everyone who came together for our outreach caroling event on December 11. We gathered a group of 16 people and carpoled to the Senior Star at The Arbors (retirement community) on Yale Avenue right in our community and sang familiar Christmas carols for the residents at the conclusion of their dinner time. As a bonus, Greta Mueller, Julia & Jason Kleps each played a different fun Christmas song on the piano in the room.

Following our caroling we all reassembled at Joy and warmed ourselves around the fire pit roasting marshmallows and ate pizza and enjoyed each other's fellowship.

-- Stephanie Mueller & Sister Jennie Myers



Fellowship Events This Winter & Spring

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time? How do you want to continue to get to know your family at Joy Lutheran? A potluck? A cookout? A game night? An outing? Pick something you enjoy doing and then invite others to join you. If you're interested in creating a fellowship event, talk to Sister Jennie Myers and we can go from there.



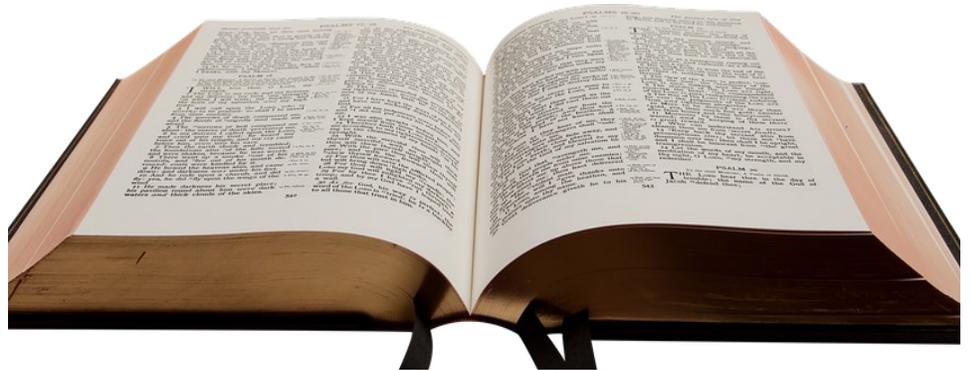
Greta Mueller and Jason Kleps played a few Christmas carols on piano for the residents and staff of the Senior Star nursing home.

Lydia's Cluster 5 Quilt/Craft Group Schedule for January/February.

We will meet every Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.
New faces are always welcome. Bring a sack lunch, there is always
plenty of coffee and goodies.

**Esther Circle—
University Village January 20 at 10:00 a.m.
And February 17 at 10:00 a.m.**

Come and join us for
discussion and fellowship.
Contact Carol Rowe--
carolrowe@cox.net or
Susan Humphrey—
dabbler54@gmail.com if
you have questions about
the Esther Circle.



Thank You Note from Cancer Treatment Centers of America

Catherine & Carol,

What a wonderful treat you bestowed upon our patients on Wednesday. The blankets are lovely and well made. I went up to Infusion (chemotherapy) and the first patient I ran into was in the midst of a session of chemo that was lengthy. She loved the quilt, chose a black & darker one and she told me it was a timely gift...she was thrilled. She explained they were travelling home to Olive Branch, MO as soon as her chemo ended...a five hour drive and she planned to lay down in the backseat. The quilt would be her cover... she really was so happy to have it. We gave quilts to the nurses to hand out Wed. evening. We also gave out quilts to patients today in our gallery (hall) and lobby as it has been unusually cold. You have truly uplifted many patients spirits as well as helping them stay warm. Bless you all for all the time and work you put into the quilts./ I pray God blesses you all for your very kind deeds.

Sincerely, Gary Ann

Full Financial report on contributions, offerings, missions and expenditures for 2017/2018 will be available in the annual report at our annual meeting on January 28th.

Posadas Dinner

Mary and Joseph's Journey to Bethlehem as told with music and dramatization.

Yummy
food!



Sharing of the Hispanic tradition of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. with Pastor Alvaro and Comunidad de Esperanza.. We enjoyed community,, fellowship, singing and wonderful Hispanic food. Thank you to Susan Humphrey for providing our delicious feast!



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



As we heard the Christmas story told from the Book of John “The Word became flesh and lived among us”, we shared in a long tradition of illuminating a dark room with candlelight. Thank you for joining us at Joy for this special service.

At the 5:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve, we visited **Places of the Nativity** along the path of the Christmas story through Scripture readings. Both Elsa and Greta Mueller presented symbols of each place that we visited along the journey.

In the picture above, Elsa Mueller is presenting a globe to remind us that we are to share the light of Christ to the ends of the earth.



Outreach at Joy Lutheran

Caregivers at Joy

Thank you to all caregiving volunteers in helping/praying and showing your care for one another this past year, our combined efforts add up to a big difference to those receiving our thoughts and prayers, in addition to other items like visits, helping hands, and driving hands.



Please contact text Ed Reyes (918)-209-1318 if you would like more details in helping our fellow congregation by joining or leading a caregiving group. We hope to set up a meeting in November for those who are interested. The meeting will detail how the church office and the caregiving team works together in addressing needs. Hope to hear from you soon!

Please let us know if you would be interested in joining one of more of our caregiving groups, which include:

-- *Driving Hands*

-- *Helping Hands Meals*

-- *Hospital/Homebound Visits*

A Letter from Elsa Mueller

Joy Friends and Family! I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your travel support via the Joy Mission Endowment Fund for my recent trip to Israel. The program I went with enabled me to travel, have conversations with and learn along side other college students from around the US and from a wide variety of faiths, ethnicities and belief systems. While there I met with a variety of groups that included those that aid refugee groups, political leaders, Israeli and Palestinian youth & leaders. I visited a wide variety of holy sites, saw vast differences in living conditions, and learned about the history of the region. The complexity of this area of the world has brought me more questions than answers. I hope to be taking what I have experienced to student groups I am involved with at Vanderbilt, and facilitate dialogue & joint programming with those student groups of other faiths and perspectives. I also look forward to returning to Joy in late spring to share my experience with you!



Elsa Mueller by the Sea of Galilee

-- *Elsa Mueller*

Laura Dester Children's Shelter

Most of you know I'm the Recreation Coordinator for the Laura Dester Children's Shelter. Our mission is to provide and maintain a safe, temporary placement for children ages 5 to 17 who have been removed from their homes due to neglect or abuse. These kiddos stay with us until arrangements are made for their continuing care elsewhere. If you or someone you know have an old game system and games and would like to donate them I can trade you out a donation receipt. Any hand held electronic game would also be appreciated. I'd be happy to come pick it up from you if you're local or you could bring it by the center at 7318 E. Pine.

--*Tresa Dorr*