

JOY!FUL NOISE

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



Joy Lutheran's Bowling League

Sign up on the kiosk today to join our league today!! Join us at Lakeside Bowl in Mundelein on Rt 45 for a meeting on 9/9/11 at 6:30 followed by free bowling. The league bowls the 3rd Friday of each month starting on 9/16/11 at 6:45pm. The league continues thru April with a banquet in May. The cost is \$15 per person per month. Join us – it's lots of fun for everyone!!

JoyFest
August 21
Join us for worship at 10:30 am followed by fun, food, fellowship & tons of fun!!

Students, preschool thru adult, bring your backpack (or diaper bag if your child is in daycare) to Worship on Sunday, August 21st (Joy!Fest). We will have a backpack blessing during worship and pray for our students of all ages as they go back to school!!!



Exciting News from Youth Search Committee!

After months of laughs, prayers, discussions, skyping, prayers, meetings, interviews and more prayers the Joy! Youth Minister Search committee is proud to announce our selection of **Colin Cranmer** as our new Director of Youth Ministries. Colin states it best in his resume, he is a "...warm, enthusiastic youth pastor with 15 years experience of creating fun-infused environments that foster community and attract youth, mobilizing and training teams of compassionate adults for ministry, and sharing the teaching of Christ in an engaging and approachable way..."

The search committee believes that Colin will definitely take our youth ministry to the next level. The search committee, Alyssa Wilt, Ian Anderson, Pat DeBreau, Kevin Belles, co-leaders, Betsy Wehde, Neal Johnson, and council representative Jim Kerwin would like to thank you for all your prayers and patience.

Colin is married to Shay and they have a 2 year-old daughter, Ena.



From the desk of Pastor Scott ~

I can't imagine anyone saying these aren't momentous times. Change is coming and mighty winds are blowing through our nation. The steady winds of the last few years are turning into a gale force. Are our politicians up for the challenge? There are not many who think they are. Are our financial institutions and markets up for the challenge? We can only hope. Are we up for the challenge? We can't help but get caught up in these winds and certainly we all share the responsibility of these challenges.

However you interpret the "signs and wonders" of these days we rest our faith on the God of signs and wonders, who created a magnificent universe, whose people are made in his image, who led them out of their most troubled days and who redeems them through the love of a Son who gave his life...for people living in moments like these.

Continued on page 5

FROM THE JOY! CHURCH COUNCIL ~

Past meetings of the Church Council took place on July 13th and 19th. Our meeting of July 13th began with prayer as we began to discuss the recommendation by the Youth Director Call Team of Colin Cranmer to join the staff at Joy! As our Director of Youth Ministry. Colin has a background of several years in youth ministry. Neal Johnson was contacted about some additional questions. Steve Wilt was also contacted regarding the logistics of the summer camp.

The council meeting on July 19th opened in prayer. After approving prior meeting minutes, the current financial statements were submitted for review. John Schrader updated the council on recent Building Expansion developments such as the moving of the transformer box and tree survey required by the Village of Gurnee. Sue Gearica gave an update on the current status of the hiring of Colin Cranmer for our new Youth Director. The council will wait to hear from Sue regarding the status of health insurance for our current full-time employees and council will regroup for final preparations of receiving Colin as part of our staff.

Due to many discussion topics regarding the day-to-day operations of the church council and building expansion, the council will contemplate meeting twice monthly. This will provide adequate time for devotion and discussions.

In His Name,
The Church Council

Joy! Lutheran Church					
Financial Results - JUNE 2011					
	June 2011		YTD June 2011		
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Last Year -2010
What God has provided:					
<i>GENERAL FUND</i>					
Total General Offering	37,703	38,460	467,544	510,000	502,442
Facilities Support Offering	1,750	2,667	35,533	32,000	44,259
Investment and Other Revenues	9,992	7,592	39,057	38,100	59,525
Total Income	49,445	48,719	542,135	580,100	606,225
How we used it to minister:					
Staffing Expense	21,238	28,158	302,968	339,429	317,120
Benevolence sent outside our walls	4,076	4,054	50,509	53,500	53,914
Worship, Education & Other Expenses	8,044	8,043	77,203	85,371	95,020
Facilities and Mortgage Expense	8,541	7,918	112,078	101,800	142,072
Total Expenses	41,898	48,173	542,758	580,100	608,126
Net Change in our Reserves	7,546	546	(623)	-	(1,901)
<i>BUILDING FUND</i>					
YTD June 2011					
Beginning Cash Balance	300,484				
Capital Campaign Offering	212,491				
Interest Income	4,086				
Capital Campaign Expense	(33,783)				
Construction Expense	(85,292)				
Ending Cash Balance	397,986				

Our financial standing at the end of our fiscal year, June 30th, shows Year-to-Date General Offerings about 92% of our budget. While our Facility Support Offerings are 11% over budget, this has dropped dramatically since January 1st. Adding the Building and Grounds Maintenance this past winter, our cash reserve cushion has been eliminated. The Church Council, Stewardship Committee, and Finance Committee have discussed various options in the case of requiring funds for our checking account.

Keeping in line with our offerings, our expenses were 93% of budget for the fiscal year. All areas of expenses were below budget except for Building Maintenance due to our heavy winter snowfalls.

The So That Lives Are Changed capital campaign pledges received year-to-date are \$212,491. Many thanks to those who are contributing to this campaign. Capital Campaign expenses to date are \$84,158.

Contribution statements as of June 30th are available in the lobby. Please see Roland Bellman for any questions regarding the statements.

What's been happening at Joy!

By Relational Ministries Coordinator, Jenelle Ancona...

IN Small Groups-

This summer at Joy! we have been talking about .COMmunity and the various aspects of being community. An important part of the Joy! community is small group relationships. Small groups are a place to grow in areas of study, fellowship & service. This summer one of our women's small groups, Simply Searching, challenged themselves to continue growing in all these areas. These women served by collecting 28 jars of peanut butter for the Warren Township food pantry which was the idea that arose from the Outlive Your Life study. They also provided meals for a group member who recently had a baby and they provided 2 meals this summer for the PADS program supporting our homeless population. For fellowship enrichment they had some fun as a group going boating & seeing a concert in the park. And a sub group from this group continued to challenge themselves by studying Beth Moore's Daniel study this summer. Warm weather and busy schedules didn't stop this group from continuing to grow. Way to go ladies!

Joy! has a variety of wonderful small group opportunities many of which will be starting back up in Sept- if interested in joining or starting a small group please contact me at Jenelle.ancona@joylutheran.org and/or keep your eyes open for announcements in the bulletin of groups starting up.

IN Connections Ministry-

Joy! has been blessed with over 25 visitors/new families already this summer and intentional efforts have been made to follow up with each visitor in a very personal, loving way. We continue to average about 2 new visiting families each week. One of our goals over the past few years has been to foster a more welcoming environment. To continue to make progress on this goal we need the whole .COMmunity to be intentional in welcoming others and developing relationships. Keep your eyes open and hand extended to new faces.

IN 1st Impressions-

This summer 1st impressions added a new coach to the team, Pat DeBreau, but we also say goodbye to long time coach & ministry partner, Karen Finkel, who has been a wonderful leader in this ministry. We are grateful that Pat has decided to use her gifts on this team and have already been blessed by her service here and are looking forward to what she can bring to 1st Impressions. If you are interested in sharing your gifts and becoming a part of this team please contact me at Jenelle.ancona@joylutheran.org.

Also a special **THANK YOU** to the dedicated servants at Joy! who have helped in the areas of communion service, ushering, greeting, information center & refreshments this summer, showing up on these HOT or STORMY Sunday summer mornings to keep things happening here at Joy!

Dear Joy!,

Remember that old saying, "Time flies when you're having fun?" After almost a complete year as Joy!'s interim youth pastor, I can tell you that the saying is true. As we really get going into the Summer, I want to take this opportunity to thank Pastor Scott, the church council, the parents, the Joy youth ministers, and especially the students for so much support and prayers. The youth ministers especially made my work easier as they worked side-by-side with me to accomplish the mission of keeping XRoads and AtF moving forward during this year of transition. I want to thank the leaders who worked with me all year long – Deanna Horne, Steve Wilt, Neal Johnson, John Saigh, Kevin Belles, Jean Hackbert, Jeremiah Nink, Betsy Wehde, Dan Belles, Sheilja Lorenz, and Scott Herrick. I want to recognize Angela and Joe Duea Williams who labored with us, and have stepped down to give more time to other ministry needs. I thank God for each of these fellow laborers!

As I prepare to step-down at the end of July, I want to tell you what a pleasure it has been to serve you all and serve our Lord in this capacity. It has been a real encouragement for me, as I've gotten to meet so many students and grow new friendships with so many of them. I have been constantly reminded that God is good ... all the time. Even when I am no longer a part of the Joy youth ministry, I will be eagerly following what God is doing in the lives of our youth and their families, anticipating that God will continue to grow you all, transforming you through the power of His Holy Spirit to be transformed to be like Jesus Christ. I pray that you will lack for nothing, but will learn to trust in and depend on our Lord for everything. May you continue to read your Bibles, always seeking to understand and apply God's Word to every part of your life. I also pray that you will seek out opportunities to share your faith in both word and deed. I trust that God's plan for both XRoads and AtF will include not only a lot of fun, but that our middle and high school students grow in their faith, their hunger for God's Word in their lives, and a desire to have God use them where they are and wherever they go.

I thank God for each of you, and thank Him for this once in a lifetime opportunity to serve Him and you in this capacity. God's many blessings to you all!

In His Grip,
Dave

PandaMania VBS 2011

We took an adventure through God's Word at PandaMania, Where God is Wild about You, Vacation Bible School. God began working on the hearts of our VBS Coordinators, Tim & Jori Maguire, and the 22 leaders back in February. These servants planned the week's activities, trained, encouraged and supported the 130 adult and youth volunteers that opened their hearts and hands to serve our gracious Lord and the children He brought through the doors. The week of June 13th – 17th, Lisa Pilkington began every morning with prayer, 245 children walked through the doors of Joy! and experienced a jungle atmosphere where Panda Pete (Tim Maguire) and The PandaManiacs Band gave us insight to the days theme. We worshiped together, and heard God's word through music, spotlight drama, crafts, storytelling, snacks and gym. 67% of the children that participated in VBS were from the Lake County area. During the week, we had the opportunity to give 3 Bibles to children who never had the Word of God placed in their hands. We ended the week with a Friday evening party with Panda Pete. Children brought their family and friends and shared the VBS experience, their God sighting stories, worshiped together by singing our favorite songs and shared snacks.

God also opened the hearts of children, parents, friends, family and volunteers to bring in their change each day to help support Little by Little (orphans in the village of Gramothe, Haiti) Mission Project. Children visited the PandaMart each day and purchased packs filled with health packs, diaper packs, sunglasses, hats and shoes. Our goal was to raise \$3000.00, which we exceeded early Friday morning to bring our grand total to over \$3400.

This year we put a call out to our Joy! family that we were in need of scholarships for children who would not have been able to attend because of financial hardship. You came through BIG TIME...you purchased pandas in various amounts and the total was over \$900 which sponsored 26 children. I thank God for your generosity.

I would like to thank all the leaders, volunteers and children that participated in PandaMania this year. The light and love of Jesus Christ and His Grace truly did shine in and through you this week. For more VBS fun... summer 2012... Aviator Al will help us present Sky, where

"Everything is Possible with God"!!!

"B-I-B-L-E...That's the Book for Me!" - Kids' Adventure Klub

The Children's Ministry Administrative Team has been working hard this summer to gear up for this year's fall program. Our theme this year is "B-I-B-L-E...That's the Book for Me!" and begins on Sunday, September 11th. We will explore stories where, through the Word of God, children and volunteer staff alike will take a journey of faith learning how God nurtures us to be a vital member of His family. We will use the Workshop Rotation Model at age appropriate levels at all sessions. We have made some changes to our Preschool program and are excited to share the love of Jesus with our little ones in a new way.

The Workshop Rotation model uses many activities in weekly lessons so that each student, whether he/she learns best by listening or watching, creating or singing, playing or cooking, will learn God's word in a fun and meaningful way. It also allows volunteers to choose an area of participation where they feel they are gifted...crafts, games, storytelling, music, science projects or cooking. If you just love to be with children, then you can be a "guide", whose primary role is to love and nurture children in their faith journey and by being a friend without having to "teach" a lesson. **What could be more important – and more exciting – than teaching little ones about Jesus? Nothing!** You can work with a partner so grab a friend and join the fun!

Volunteers are needed in each area of this program, it takes 45 volunteers every Sunday to run KAK. To keep our music portion of the workshop rotation, we need a leader to step out in faith and plan music for the year and help our youth volunteers lead on Sunday morning.

Registration has begun for children 3 years old through 5th grade and forms are available in classroom 1/2 and will continue until September 11th.

If you aren't sure where you fit in, join us for lunch at the Children's Ministry Training Event on Sunday, August 28th at noon. We will share vital information to help you share your faith with our precious little children. For more information, stop by classroom 1/2 or you can also contact Cheryl O'Neill at the church office or email Cheryl.oneill@joylutheran.org.



continued from front page:

Like many of you I find it hard to be hopeful about what is happening in places like Washington or Springfield or Wall Street much less in far away places like Europe and the Middle East. But when I look to the God revealed in Jesus Christ, I have hope that whatever these winds of change will bring it can be redeemed for good.

So I'm praying and I hope you will too...that the winds of the Spirit of God blow into all of these current "signs and wonders". I'm praying that God will bring peace and hope to the world and to your homes. And I'm praying that the Spirit will continue to breathe new life into our church. In these unsteady times we put our trust in God. We move forward with our mission and live out Kingdom values while steadily doing ministry that changes lives.

Some hopeful winds of change are moving here at Joy!.

I have the pleasure of introducing you to our new Director of Youth Ministry, Colin Cranmer. Colin's work with youth goes back 15 years. He is a creative and passionate Christian leader and teacher. He is a lot of fun, very approachable and a talented musician. We are very excited about Colin's coming. Colin will also be working with me and the Adult Discipleship ministry. His day of arrival is August 16 and will join us in worship on August 21 for Joy!fest.

The building process is on the move. At this point most of the work is behind the scenes. Our building team, architect and contractor are working through the permitting process with the city. Look for updates on the north wall of the lobby.

With fall programs about to start up, I can't help but thank God that we are his people and that he is with us through whatever might come our way. I can't help but look ahead in the hope that our ministry will be a force in this world that brings the "signs and wonders" of the Kingdom of God.

In Christ!
Pastor Scott

And this is the boldness we have in him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have obtained the requests made of him. 1 John 5:14-15 NRSV

Joy! Library Getting Back in Shape

After a few months of inactivity, the **Joy! Lutheran Church Library** is getting back in shape for fall! We're weeding our existing collection and getting ready to purchase some exciting new materials. However before we do that, we're **trying to locate all those items that have been checked out and misplaced**. Please help us by checking, in those out-of-the-way spots around the house, to find those library items you've forgotten you have! We currently missing as many as 50-75 items...some have been checked out for several years!! We'll be sending out reminder slips soon to help you remember the titles and types of materials currently checked out to you. If you can't find them, or would like to keep them longer, please let us know by leaving a note (your name, titles of the items and whether they're lost or you want to renew them) in **our library mailbox in the office**. If you're finished with the items, just return them to the **library tote located in the church lobby**. We're looking forward to bringing you a cartload of wonderful new items soon!!

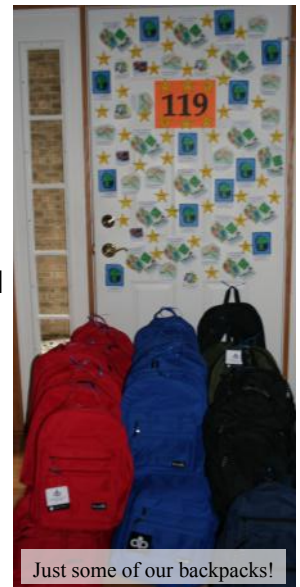
Backpack Ministry 2011

Michelle Hood

Joy! has partnered once again with Healthy Communities Healthy Youth and Serve2Gether to provide new backpacks filled with necessary school supplies to underprivileged children in our Gurnee school districts.



Thank you, Joy! community, for responding so willingly to help these children! Our initial goal was to fill 54 backpacks. We more than doubled that goal...we will be providing 119 backpacks to children who need an extra boost heading into a new school year!! You have given Joy! the opportunity to share the love and heart of Christ with these children and their parents. I consider myself very blessed to serve with you all in this ministry.



Just some of our backpacks!

From Red Lake, Minnesota:

Alyssa Wilt

On July 16th, 21 high school students and 5 leaders set out on a journey to the Chippewa Indian Reservation in Red Lake, Minnesota. Our goal? To serve the residents of the Red Lake Nation and, of course, have fun! Each of us was put on a crew with 4 or 5 other people that we had never met and we each worked on a different project, with different residents. I helped wash and paint the exterior and interior of a house; others built porches or wheelchair ramps. Over the week we became great friends with the other people in our crew. The theme of our week was "Connect" and every night we went to program where we got to learn how to connect with our youth group, our residents, and most importantly, God. We each experienced God in different ways throughout the week and grew closer, not only to him, but to each other. Of course, along the way we had many fun moments, including an afternoon at a waterpark. Thank you so much for all of your prayers and support! We really appreciate it!

rEVOLution of LOVE:

Colin "Young C" Pilkington

rEVOLution of Love was a mission trip a few of us youth took back in June, and I think it's safe to say none of us walked away unchanged. Our group was assigned with two others to help out with the Tri-county Pregnancy Center. We went all over Grayslake handing out door hangers advertising for their thrift shop, which is how the center is able to stay in business outside of donations. On Saturday we held a car wash to raise even more so the center can get new supplies to help young women. Every day after walking around we spent our time at Camp Hickory with the other camper's playing card games and bonding within our small group. Each night we spent in worship and listened to speakers talk about Acts 2:42-47. The week ended on Sunday when all the campers, staff and all the guests we'd invited during the week met at a nearby school, and we praised God through song and being crazy. I know God was present with us that week, because after the first day the lady who works at the center told us people had come in and used the coupon attached to the door hanger, and on the Saturday during the car wash somebody donated \$100. Overall it was an awesome experience in which we had an impact and none of us will forget this week.

From NTS Camp:

Rachel Hood

Our Crossroads Youth Group went to NTS Camp (Never the Same Camp) this summer. NTS is such a great experience! I have gone twice and each time I was so moved and changed by the experience! This camp balances fun and learning in a unique way. We have teams and competitions, as well as open rec time where we can play just about any sport. And, let's not forget about worship! Worship was so energizing and you really can feel God's presence! I have learned so many new things about God through the classes, as well as throughout each day! NTS gives us all the opportunity to meet so many new people and make new friends from other states while building friendships in our own church. NTS is always an amazing experience and I can truly say that I will never be the same!