



JOYFUL 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.

COOL Food-of-the-Month for May is canned fish/meat!

Thank you for your continued generosity towards COOL!

Coming up at Joy!

May 16 - 1st Communion class at 7pm

May 21 - Youth fundraiser

"Dinner Dance" at 6pm

June 4 - Engage Class from 9 to noon

June 13 - 17 VBS

I love the title of our church-wide study, "Out Live Your Life." It is based on a book by Max Lucado by the same title. He challenges us to accept God's call on our life to be not only life changers but world changers. We have this once in history opportunity to make this world a different place from South Hunt Club to South Africa. Just before Jesus physically left this world he called his disciples to live out the mission of their life. *"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."* (Acts 1:8 NIV)

Jesus' plans were huge. He wouldn't be satisfied with anything but everything. That plan has been carried out by generation after generation of disciples who have 'yes' to his call on their life and who courageously went after 'everything'. I thank Jesus for his promise that we are not in this alone...that the Holy Spirit is with us and empowers us to meet the challenge. Empowered in this way we can courageously move ahead.

One of the great stories in the Old Testament tells of when God's people entered the Promised Land. Moses had died and Joshua was about to take the helm. Listen to what God told him:

"As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them. Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:5-9 NIV

Sounds kind of like Acts 1, doesn't it. What a promise to live in! Knowing that God was with him, Joshua led the people into a new life. Like the Jerusalem community on the day Jesus ascended to heaven, Joshua and all of God's people moved ahead with incredible courage and hope.

You and I are entering a time when it is more important than ever that we know this hope and live courageously. What an exciting season in our life. We are on the verge of expanding our ministry and mission supported by a building project that will begin this summer. To become the community that Jesus has called to reach the ends of the earth will require us to look squarely to God, live faithfully and be fearless. Not an easy thing unless you believe God's promise: *"Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."* Joshua 1:5-9 NIV

We are going to have to face many challenges and obstacles. We are going to have to make difficult decisions and take significant risks. Why would the future be any different than the past? What is true for all of us is also true for each of us. You will also have to face challenges and obstacles, and make difficult decisions and take significant risks in order that both your purpose in life and our mission is accomplished. But again, why would the future be different than the past.

Let's all live courageously! Let's all live fully! Let's all give and serve generously! "The LORD your God will be with you."

Pastor Scott

May 2011

News from Joy! Church Council ~

The Church Council met on Tuesday, April 19th opening in prayer. As we invited God's presence we prayed for our members, staff, leaders, and community, thanking God for our many blessings and asking for His guidance and wisdom. After approving our minutes from the previous meeting, the March Financial Statements were reviewed and approved. Noted by the council was the decrease of General Fund and Facility Support offerings. The Facility Support offerings are used for the mortgage payment and building maintenance. A first-round draft of the fiscal year 2011-2012 budget was reviewed. The Church Council will meet again to address the budget and the audit report presented by The Audit Committee for the fiscal years ending 2008 & 2009.

Council discussed the new organization chart related to staffing. Pastor Scott unveiled the rendering of the finished building as created by our architects, Belli & Belli. Our annexation process was discussed and Alice Cantwell and John Schrader attended the Village of Gurnee meeting to cheer for the passing of the 5-year extension of our annexation. Pastor Scott presented an update of the Youth Minister call team who are in process of setting up phone interviews. Steve Mayer and Mike Turchi are heading up the search for council nominees. If you are interested in being a part of the Church Council, please see them as soon as possible.

Pastor Scott presented a vision of missionary support for those planning to attend a trip this fall to El Salvador, led by Dale Arnold. If you are interested in participating in this Habitat for Humanity trip, please contact Dale Arnold. Pastor Scott closed our meeting with prayer and our abundance of gratitude to our Heavenly Father.

Peace and Joy!

The Church Council

Joy! Lutheran Church				
Financial Results - February 2011				
	February 2011		YTD February 2011	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
What God has provided:				
GENERAL FUND				
Total General Offering	34,328	38,460	314,879	341,545
Facilities Support Offering	1,320	2,667	29,168	21,332
Investment and Other Revenues	2,355	1,892	23,481	20,632
Total Income	38,003	43,019	367,528	383,509
How we used it to minister:				
Staffing Expense	25,257	28,158	204,527	226,797
Benevolence sent outside our walls	3,289	4,054	39,853	35,823
Worship, Education, Other Expenses	3,910	5,972	43,034	57,498
Facilities and Mortgage Expense	13,281	10,199	77,912	67,615
Total Expenses	45,737	48,383	365,325	387,733
Net Change in our Reserves	(7,734)	(5,364)	2,203	(4,224)
BUILDING FUND				
	YTD February 2011			
Beginning Cash Balance	300,484			
Capital Campaign Offering	150,634			
Interest Income	2,704			
Capital Campaign Expense	(5,545)			
Construction Expense	(16,332)			
Ending Cash Balance	431,946			

Dear Joy!

Above you will see a change in the format of providing you with Joy! Financial information. The first area is our General Fund only providing a picture of our "checkbook." The General Offerings year-to-date are 8% below budget, approximately \$27,000. Facility Support Offerings designated for staying inhouse and supporting our facilities and mortgage, have dropped in the last few months. Our Facilities expenses are currently over budget due to the snow storms and corresponding snowplowing required. Our staff continues to be careful with their budgets and we remain under budget in staff, worship, administrative, etc. The pledges received year-to-date for the So That Lives Are Changed construction project are \$150,634. Expenses paid out for the capital campaign and construction (Civil Engineer) are \$21,877. The Church Council and the Capital Campaign, Stewardship and Finance Committees encourage all to be **All In** and support our capital campaign. Your continued pledges will help support the beginning expenses of the civil engineer and other fees until we secure the new construction loan. The application has been submitted to the Mission Investment Fund and will be sent to the underwriter for continued processing. Regular offering gift pledge cards can still be turned in. Please leave in an envelope in the offering plate or at the Info Center.

ALL IN So That Lives Are Changed!

Confirmation Sunday, May 15 @ 10:30

During the past 2 month Pastor Scott and Dave Feiser have been leading 8th and 9th grade students through a study of the Apostles' Creed in preparation for Confirmation Sunday. In addition to time in class the students have prepared a statement of faith and are meeting individually with Pastor Scott and Dave to discern their readiness to publically profess their faith. Keep these students in your prayers.

**Angela Bellman, Maddie Bitto, Josh Collier,
Michael DeBreau, Holly Duenas, Maddie Feiser,
Dalton Gackle, Benjamin Herrick, Craig Hoeksema,
Rachel Hood, Dana Jensen, Brett Johnson,
Allison Kafka, Caitlyn Keefe, Alex Kern,
Justin Koch, Lucy Landaeta, Bri Lorenz,
Cory Luetke, Allyson Mitchell, Riley Mulford,
Quinn Nonnemacher, Seamus O'Connor,
Nick Pelland, Devan Peplow, Jennifer Saigh,
Marcus Shamberg, Nicole Towne, Colton Wicinski,
Hayden Wicinski and Julie Zysk**

The WOW! Experience at Joy!

From Cheryl

If you had the opportunity to worship with us on Easter...all I can say is WOW!!!! The people of Joy! were the hands and heart of Jesus. Meeting and greeting each other in the hallways, classrooms and lobby. Doors were opened to build community around a table while eating breakfast. Servants volunteering during Worship, in the kitchen, cleaning up bathrooms, emptying garbage, brought food to share and much more!! The Holy Spirit worked in and through many people so that Hospitality was extended to the 600 plus people that walked through the door. Thanks be to God!!

Imagine every week being Easter...that the enthusiasm of our Risen Savior was flowing each and every Sunday! That is the goal of the First Impressions team. God has blessed Joy! with amazing leaders who have a passion and heart for Jesus, visitors and the people of Joy! Join us!!! As we approach summer we are looking for volunteers with a heart for Jesus and can share their hands on Sunday mornings. Greeters, Ushers, Communion Servers, Coffee Makers, Refreshment/Kitchen Servers and much more are needed!! Sign up sheets are on the kiosk in the lobby.

I would also like to thank the community of Joy! for your love and support over the past 3 years as I have served in the First Impressions Ministry. It has helped me grow in my faith and have a renewed spirit of Hospitality and how it impacts our guests and members. I have loved partnering in ministry with those leaders that serve on our First Impressions Team. Over the next month, I look forward to supporting and walking with Jenelle Ancona as she transitions into her new full time role at Joy! We are incredibly blessed by her gifts that she will share with this community.

Again...thank you so much for all who made Holy Week and Easter such a WOW! Experience.

Leader Huddle, May 21, 8:30am – 12:30pm

The Joy! leadership community is gathering on Saturday morning, May 21st. Joy! is blessed to have talented leaders who serve in many ministries and in many roles. The Leader Huddle is an opportunity to focus on our shared mission, receive leadership and administrative tools, to grow as individuals and as a community, and to worship and praise God. Please keep this community in your prayers and if you have interest in being a part of this event please contact the church office.

Stewardship: 365 Days a Year

Each day is an opportunity to use the life you have been given in a response to God's love and generosity. The Bible is clear that God has given you your life and all that you have. God has given you the opportunity to use it all to further his kingdom on earth as we prepare for our home in heaven.

As we approach summer it is important to remember that the stewardship of your life doesn't end with the last day of school or for summer vacations. Everyday is a day to give glory to God through the good and generous use of our resources. Each week throughout the year we can supply God's mission through the giving of your time, talents and treasures.

The Joy! mission will need your support throughout the year and especially needs you to continue generous giving throughout the summer months. Our expenses don't end in the spring and pick back up in the fall. The staff will continue to work hard to lead the Joy! mission. Lay leaders and volunteers will continue to need resources for Sunday School, VBS, Youth Ministry, Worship and other ministries. The land and buildings that provide a mission outpost also need ongoing financial support.

Please consider using the Simply Giving Program. It is a convenient, safe and simple way for to make regular automatic contributions to Joy! through electronic funds transfer (EFT) directly from checking or savings accounts. It is a great way to be a more consistent giver and makes giving easy when you are traveling. Simply Giving can be set up to make contributions at intervals that work for you. The gift of Simply Giving to the church is that consistent contributions can be received throughout the year whether you are able to come to worship or not.

Please prayerfully consider how you will support the Joy! mission and God's work here through your stewardship 365 days a year.

Administrative Assistant Position Filled

We are very pleased to announce that Ann Bowman has accepted the revised position of Administrative Assistant. Ann has been working in our office 2-3 days a week for about 5 years. The new position will expand the office hours to 9am – 4pm, Monday through Thursday and 9am – 1pm on Fridays.

Children's Ministry

From the Desk of Cheryl O'Neill

First Communion class will be held Monday, May 16th at 7pm (parent & child should both attend). This will be followed by First Communion Sunday, May 29th at both services.

PandaMania – Vacation Bible School 2011!

Join us June 13th-17th from 9am-12pm for a wild adventure into God's Word. Registration has begun!! To help with planning, please fill out a paper registration form or register on-line and drop off payment at the VBS info table. We are looking for volunteers: adult teachers & youth helpers (for all ages), kitchen helpers, and crafters are still needed. Volunteer forms are available at the VBS info table as well as on-line. If you cannot volunteer during the week, donations are needed to help our children grow closer to our Lord. Signup sheets are in the lobby. Contact: Jori Maguire, jorimaguire@comcast.net for more information. Child and Volunteer on-line registration can be found through links on the church website, www.joylutheran.org.



A Special Thank You!

It's hard to believe that the year for Kids' Adventure Klub is coming to a close. Finale Sunday will be May 22nd! I'd like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all who served our children during the 2010-11 year. To our Guides who made a weekly commitment to get to know, nurture and love our children. To the Pathfinders who taught our children Bible stories in creative and fun ways. To the music team who shared the gift of music and reinforced workshops on a weekly basis. To the children of Joy! who shared their lives and love with us! **You continue to shape each and every one of us!!** To the parents who shared their children with us, supported and prayed for the ministry. And, **a very special thank you** to our Children's Ministry Team, who spent countless hours, dedication and meetings to develop a program that is spectacular for children. They wrote lesson plans that children love. Because of that, children truly got to know and experience God's love. It is because of these gifted volunteers that this ministry is so successful.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING THE LORD!!

As we look towards the summer months, the Children's Ministry Team is already hard at work preparing for the 2011-12 program year. We are looking for volunteers to step out in faith and join this amazing team. Co-coordinators are needed on the ministry team!!! If you are interested, please contact Cheryl O'Neill at 847.996.3762 or email cheryl.oneill@joylutheran.org. No experience needed...we will walk along side you and partner in ministry...we need you!!!

From the desk of Dave Feiser

Interim Youth Pastor

Dear Joy!,

The Apostle Paul writes in Ephesians 1:18-19, ***"I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe."***

This hope to which God has called us is what defines our lives and our life together as Joy Lutheran Church. Everything else – the worship, the service opportunities, the fun and games – are all to serve as evidence of this hope. Our hope is God's glory, revealed in Jesus Christ, bestowed upon us, by grace, in love. This month we will celebrate as a congregation what God has been doing in the lives of almost thirty eighth and ninth graders as they confirm for themselves and make a public profession of their personal faith in Jesus Christ. This is something big to celebrate! At the same time, many of our high school students gotten excited about a seven-week challenge for praying for and living out their faith in Jesus Christ. They are seeking to understand Acts 2:42-47 (parents, I invite you to read it yourselves), and discover how the life of the early church is a framework built on the foundation of Jesus' call to be His witnesses wherever we are (Acts 1:8), and live the life of repentance and baptism (Acts 2:38-40). When God brings such things about, we should be excited!

This is part of the God-centered life. This is what it means to "out live your life". The youth ministry of Joy Lutheran has been calling our middle and high school students to out live their lives for Jesus Christ long before I came on the scene. We continue to be obedient to that call. Whether you're a middle school student, a high school student, a parent, grandparent, friend, or new to Joy, the call to out live your life is the call to live all of our lives for Jesus' sake. To out live your life is to live out of the prayer of Paul, living out of the hope to which God has called us, to live out what it means to be God's holy people, and to live out our lives, not in our own strength and understanding, but to live out of God's incomparably great power for us who believe – through the power and presence of God the Holy Spirit.

God is doing things at Joy! Will you surrender? Will you get "all in"? You are invited to get out and "out live your life"! In the power of the Holy Spirit, for Jesus' sake and the glory of God, our heavenly Father.

In His Grip,
Dave

Dinner Dance Fundraiser

May 21 from 6:30 - 10pm

Money raised by AtF students will go towards mission trip expenses this summer! Funds are being matched by Thrivent.

Tickets available in the lobby today!!

Joy! Facilities Improvement Goal Team Update

"Modify our facilities to better reflect our values and move us toward our mission"

By now we're hoping you've seen the **attractive new exterior elevation** in the lobby. If not, please stop and take a look! We are truly blessed to be where we are in improving our facilities and the team asks for your prayers as our architect and construction manager work to finalized construction drawings and we near groundbreaking. Yes, read on. You will begin to see flagging from Com Ed locating underground utilities and stakes placed on our lot designating the new foundation in preparation to start digging the foundation. We would appreciate all to stay clear of these items and leave them in their place. **GROUND BREAKING** is being planned for June so stay tuned to when and where so you can be part of the great things God is doing. We are on track and making steady progress on the construction drawings and contract documents. The sanitary permit has been submitted and in May, EPA Notice of Intent and the Village of Gurnee permitting will be submitted. The latter reviews all engineering of our site from ADA (American Disabilities Act) accessibility to storm water design.

The team has asked the construction manager, Gino Ricchio, to develop alternatives to minimize ministry impacts as much as possible; however, we know there will be necessary work-a-rounds as with any normal building project. Once the building plans and construction schedule are established, we will have clarity into ministry and building access adjustments and will be sure to keep you informed so you can plan accordingly.

We will know the true building costs the end of June or early July as plans are completed and construction bids come back. As with any construction project, we find out more as we go and what changes need to be made.

Projected Timetable:

May: Final Drawings & Elevations
Permitting
Foundation drawings out to big
June: Constructions bids out
GROUND BREAKING
July: Final Building Costs

Peace Friends –

Joy! Facilities Improvement Team

(Contact: Jennifer Bellman, jrbellman@sbcglobal.net, with questions)

Dinner Dance fundraiser! Adults are invited to attend a dinner dance on Saturday, May 21 from 6:30 - 10pm sponsored by AtF. Dinner will be served by the students and a live band, *The Sublimitones*, will be performing! Money raised will support students attending the mission trip this summer. Funds will be matched by Thrivent. More information and tickets available in the lobby this morning.

Engage Class - This class is an opportunity to help people discover who God created them to be and how they can embrace that and connect to areas that will enrich their lives. Participants will be looking at their spiritual gifts and developing a personal plan for themselves. This class will be offered on Saturday, June 4 at 9 am. Look for a sign-up sheet in the lobby. Childcare available upon request.

COOL has been providing food and housing assistance to families in our community for 29 years! There are many ways we can continue to help those in need! COOL asked that you pray for their ministry and consider a contribution. Donations can be made directly to COOL through their website, www.coolministries.org. A golf outing is planned for Friday, June 3 at Bonnie Brook Golf Course! It's a best-ball scramble - information on the bulletin board near drinking fountains. Foodstock Music Festival on June 27 - information on the bulletin board! Please consider what you can do to help!

Looking to make a world of difference?

Please join Dale and Andy Arnold on their next Thrivent Builds Habitat for Humanity trip. Dale and Andy are currently recruiting members to join their team for their next trip to El Salvador from Saturday October 15 through Sunday October 23, 2011.

YOU can be a part of this or another team!

Dale and Andy's team will consist of 12+ people. Team members will partner with an El Salvadorian family to help build them a much needed home. Team members will also visit one of more areas of the country including the city of San Salvador to learn about El Salvador, its history, its people and their culture.

If you are interested in learning more about this life-changing opportunity and/or want to support this effort, please contact Dale at 847-949-1043 or e-mail him at dale.arnold@thrivent.com.

P.A.D.S. volunteers...



make beds
Michelle Hood

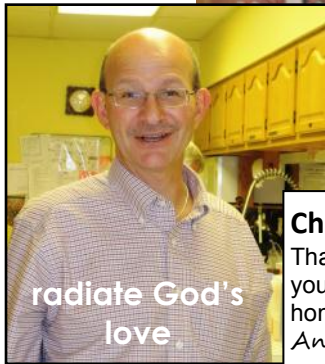


turn ground venison into Salisbury steak

Thank you to
Godfellows for
a tasty April
dinner.



dish up a hot supper
Don Bianchi and George Skweres (l-r)



radiate God's
love

Changing lives with God's love

Thank you to the Joy! community for your faithful caring and support for our homeless sisters and brothers.

Angie & Jean



clean up
Gary Koehler, Steve Wilt, Pat O'Neill, Don Bianchi (l-r)

By the numbers

Lake County P.A.D.S. Crisis Services reports (Oct. 1, 2010-Apr. 30, 2011):

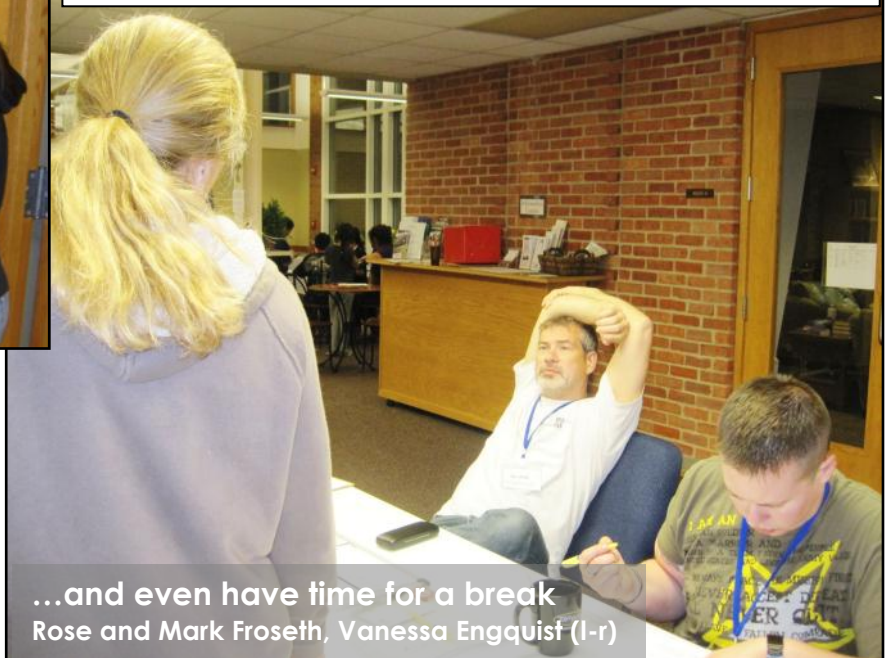
- over 30,000 hours of volunteer service donated
- over 19,000 nights of shelter provided
- over 1,400 guests who received services



offer towels, blankets, pillows
Cheryl and Laura Byrne (l-r)



provide toiletries
Josh Lamb and Sandy Sandwisch (l-r)



...and even have time for a break
Rose and Mark Froseth, Vanessa Engquist (l-r)