

Joyful Noise

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



Upcoming dates:

Sept 13: KAK Sneak Peek

Confirmation student mtg

Nursery volunteer mtg

KAK rotation workshop

AtF parent & student mtg

Sept 20: KAK begins

Sept 23: Crossroads parent & student mtg

Sept 26: Joy!Jam

Oct 3: Couples Day Away
(see CareTeam article)

Oct 4: Discovering Joy! class

Pursuing Life Team at Joy!

coordinates 2 Food Drives ~ a Joy! Food Drive for the COOL Food Pantry and a Neighborhood Food Drive to help start a new food pantry at Heritage of Faith Christian Center in Winthrop Harbor. For the Joy! Food Drive, people at Joy! can grab a Sunset Food bag (orange brochure), fill it with food, and bring it back to Joy! by Sunday September 27. For the Neighborhood Food Drive, grab a stack of Jewel bags and yellow brochures. When you give a bag to your neighbors, you will give them a brochure telling them they can leave the filled bag on their porch and you will be back on a set date and time to pick it up. Please have the filled bags back at Joy! by Sunday, October 11.

Season of Service ~ volunteer opportunities available 9/26 - 10/31! Sign up in the lobby!

September 2009

He has showed you, O man, what is good.

And what does the LORD require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy

and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8 NIV

The call to walk humbly with God is a call into a three dimensional life. It is a life UP↑ in relationship to God, it is a life IN← in relationship to your family and community of faith, and a life OUT→ in relationship to the rest of the people in the world.

The passage from Micah is a great summation of the UP↑ IN← and OUT→ life. To act justly is to care for and act on behalf of and in the best interests of our neighbors. To "love mercy" is to be in a community of loving kindness where forgiveness and mercy is modeled and practiced. To walk humbly with God is a call to an intimate relationship with the God who created us, who sustains us and who wants us to be with him and his community forever.

This fall we have the opportunity to recommit to these relationships. It is important to balance our lives in such a way that none of the three are diminished. Make worship, prayer and Bible reading an important core for your UP↑. Be sure to give your family the time and focus they deserve and be a part of a small group at Joy! so that you have a rich IN← life. And as we participate in Sharefest activities like our food drives and service projects you "act justly" for neighbors who also need your presence.

Our mission is to be a joy-filled, Christ centered (UP↑) community (IN←) that is passionate about reaching our neighbors (OUT→) with Christ's radical love so that all our lives are changed!

God "has showed you...what is good." Let's live this good life.

Pastor Scott

"The 3 R's (and the 3 P's) New Sermon Series"

Who doesn't need to be energized? As the fall starts up and activities begin a new sprint, we need more than ever to get our lives in line with God's intentions for us. When we get that right, our lives can be revitalized and able to meet life's challenges.

Our kids are going back to school to focus on the three R's of reading, writing and arithmetic. So we will have 3 R's and actually 3 P's to get our lives off to a healthy start this fall. Join us as we learn to "Restore Passion," "Reduce Pressure," and "Refocus Priorities," our message series for the last three weeks of September.



From the Desk of Cheryl O'Neill

Let's Make WOW! Experiences this Fall!

This summer the Hospitality Goal team has been hard at work brainstorming and making plans. It doesn't matter if you are a visitor, member or active non-member, all need to feel welcome! When people come to Joy! they come into contact with a number of volunteer teams that are all here to make sure the experience is a great one. We want ALL to say "Wow! I feel welcome" within the first 10 minutes of their visit. Please take a minute to read our new mission and vision statements that this team has created. We've also developed some new processes that we'll be testing. Read about our new "zones" below.

Mission Statement:

Act with Christ's passionate, unconditional love, to engage all to build and strengthen relationships through the Joy! Community.

Vision Statement:

Joy! Lutheran Church is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is. Joy! will be friendly, if I am. Joy!'s seats will be filled, if I help fill them. Joy! will do great work, if I share my servant's heart and hands with others. Joy! will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver. Joy! will bring it's neighbors into its worship and fellowship, if I invite and bring them. Joy! will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith and a church with open arms, if I embody these same things. Therefore, with the help of God, I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all the things I want Joy! to be

First Impressions Zone:

We have also been working on developing zones to help break up the leadership work load! Zones have been broken up in the following areas: worship, lobby, kitchen, special events, and parking lot. I am very excited to have the opportunity to work with amazing volunteers and watch as God directs our path and unfold these new roles and possibilities for a new process. Stay tuned...we will be testing some of these zones this fall.

All of us in the Joy! community have an opportunity to create a WOW! experience for the guests who will worship with us this fall. We *get* to be (not have to be) the heart and hands of Jesus to those who might not know Him.

How can **you** help create that WOW! experience? By offering to serve! Some tasks involve serving during worship, arriving early or staying late. Here are just a few ways you can choose to serve:

- Serve communion, serve as an usher or be a smiling face at the front and back doors as you greet our guests. Once a month sign up sheets for September, October and November are on the kiosk. Sign up and serve as a family!
- Refreshments are also needed on Sunday mornings, as well as help in the kitchen to make and serve coffee.
- Chair setup: Help is needed on all monthly teams to set up chairs on Saturday for Sunday morning worship.
- We have also developed zones to help break up the leadership work load! Consider helping to lead in the lobby zone, kitchen zone, worship zone, or special events zone.

As you can see, there is much to be done, but many hands make light work! This is an amazing and wonderful time of year! Consider partnering with me and the First Impressions team to create those WOW! experiences for all who worship here. For more specific information, contact Cheryl O'Neill @ the church office (847-362-4569) or via e-mail cheryl.oneill@joylutheran.org. Check the kiosk in the lobby for sign up sheets for all of the tasks at hand.

Blessings to you and your families this fall season!

Cheryl O'Neill

Care Team Corner: The Mission of the JOY! CARE TEAM is to journey with those in need of emotional and spiritual support as they walk the road to wholeness and healing. This is accomplished through personal contact and prayer. Please contact MaryAnne Striepling @ mils10@yahoo.com or call 847-548-0906.



Joy! is hosting a Couples Day Away Retreat!

Perhaps nothing is more important in relationships than communicating about things that matter. One of my favorite country songs has the line, “When you see a deer, you see Bambi, and I see antlers on the wall!” We couples do not see the same thing, we do not hear the same thing. Perception is a wondrous mystery and, couples need time to learn some basic approaches on how to talk with each other about matters of substance. The Care Team at Joy! is providing such an opportunity on Saturday, October 3. We are sponsoring a “Couples Day Away Retreat” at Joy! We will begin with registration at 8:30 a.m. and adjourn at 4:00 p.m. While giving attention to our life partners we will explore: “The Roles We Play,” “Civil Discourse Begins at Home,” “Marriage as Spiritual Practice” and “Promising Again”. The day will begin with a service of prayer, and conclude with worship and a blessing for each couple. Notice that we are calling this a “Couples Day Away Retreat”. This retreat is not only for married couples; if you are in a significant relationship with another person and want to attend this retreat please register with us and come. This is not primarily a marriage enrichment retreat. It is rather a retreat for couples who want to be more deeply in touch with each other.

We are asking for a registration fee of \$60 per couple; this fee includes registration, coffee breaks and lunch. If you are unable to find \$60, register anyway, and the Care Team will find a way to help. Child Care will be provided. Look for the registration form at the church. Peace to you , Al Caldwell, for the Care Team.

PADS ~ Providing Advocacy, Dignity and Shelter (formerly Public Action to Deliver Shelter)

“Whatever you did for the least of these, you did for Me.”

It may be hard to believe, but summer is in its final weeks. Soon the weather will turn cold, and we will realize how blessed we are to have warm homes and beds. Unfortunately, there are many people right here in Lake County who do not have that luxury. That is where PADS Crisis Services comes in. PADS provides a safe, clean, warm environment where homeless people can be touched by the life-changing love and mercy of Jesus.

PADS shelters are open throughout Lake County every evening 7 pm to 7 am from October 1 through April 20. Each Monday night 45 – 65 homeless guests arrive at Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church in Grayslake. They are given a hearty, home-cooked supper, a warm bed, a hot breakfast and a sack lunch. They are also able to request clothing, socks, underwear, backpacks and personal care items. The PADS ministry at Joy! is responsible for making beds, cooking and serving the evening meal the third Monday of each month at SOTL. You can help by donating your time, food items and/or money. This is a wonderful way for a small group to serve together. This is a great chance to turn outward and be the hands and face of Christ to people who desperately need Him. PADS Coordinators at Joy! are Pat DeBreau at 847-223-2301 and MaryAnne Striepling at 847-548-0906. Watch for signups in the lobby.

COOL FOOD PANTRY - Spirit of Sojourners would like to thank all who contributed to the August COOL Food Pantry; Food-of-the-Month. The September Food-of-the-Month will be peanut butter and/or jelly. Please bring your donations by the 4th Sunday of the month, September 27th. Our October item will be "Dollars for Turkeys". These dollars will give the COOL Food Pantry needed funds to purchase turkeys for the Thanksgiving Holiday. Thank you Joy! for your generosity.

From the desk of Jenelle..... Small Groups.

At Joy! building intentional relationships in a loving community, revealing God and empowering people to serve are part of our core values. Small group ministry at Joy is just one place you will find these core values lived out and defined. Small groups are a place for people to find belonging, to grow in relationship to God and in his Word, and to serve others within the group and in the community. Small groups have been a central fabric at Joy! for many years and I personally have had the privilege of participating in or leading a group for over 8 years. I have seen amazing bonds develop, people get excited to learn and grow in Gods Word and many, many groups come together to serve the community in powerful ways. I can't imagine my life without a small group of women to share it with. Recently, I read a study online that asked the question of small group participants from various churches;

What is your favorite thing about small groups?

- *64% - fellowship with Christian friends
- *24% - A chance to regularly study Gods Word
- *9% - connecting with God & others through prayer
- * 2% - Food!
- * 0%- serving the community

I pondered this question myself many times. According to this study , the most appealing part of small groups are the focus on relationship. Is this true of Joy? I'd love to hear from you. What is your favorite part of small groups at Joy? What part of small groups makes you want to participate in one? Please share your stories and comments to me at jenelle.ancona@joylutheran.org I'd love to hear from you!



Kid's Adventure Klub News:

Beginning September 20, Kid's Adventure Klub will be offered for ages 3 yrs old (by Sept. 1) through 5th Grade at 9 & 10:30. This year's theme is "Under Construction...Kid's at Work." We will explore stories where, through the Word of God, children and volunteer staff alike will take a journey of faith on this road called life. While on the road of learning and loving Jesus, the signs along the way will guide our path and hearts in the right direction.

Please register your children prior to the start date. If you didn't receive a packet in the mail, necessary forms are available at the info center in the lobby.

We need your help...If you have a love for children and would like to be a part of this exciting ministry, there are many ways to get involved. We are in need of adult volunteers to serve on a rotation basis for Music, Games, Cooking & Art at both sessions. **We also need 2 guides for 9:00 PS/PK, and 10:30 K/1st grade.** For more information, stop by during registration in room 1/2 or contact Cheryl O'Neill @847-362-4569 or E-mail Cheryl.oneill@joylutheran.org **IT TAKES THE WHOLE COMMUNITY OF FAITH TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIFE OF A CHILD and make our mission and vision to happen.**

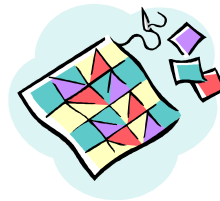
You don't need experience, we will give you all the materials you need...and training is included! Jesus calls us to serve. Prayerfully consider joining this Ministry Team. There will be a kick-off meeting on Sunday, 9/13 at 12:15, join us for lunch and find out more about Kids' Adventure Klub!

Don't miss Sneak Peek on Sunday, September 13. Between services (10-10:30), parents are invited to visit classrooms with their children to create, eat and play as we begin our rotation "Jesus is baptized." You can also register during Sneak Peek!

Joy! Jam

Do you love worship music? Would you like to jam with the Joy! worship band? If so, this ministry is for you! All instrumentalists and vocalists (all skill levels) are encouraged to attend for a fun, informal evening to learn worship music. Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Saturday evenings of every month so mark your calendar for the next one on September 26. October dates will be Oct. 10 and Oct. 24. For more details, contact worship arts director Laura Kline at laura.kline@joylutheran.org.

Prayers & Squares Quilt Ministry



Thanks and praise to all that offer their time and talents to this ministry. We have been blessed with a constant supply of quilts that are available when a prayer request is submitted. It is such a joy to have so many helping hands as the quilts are sewed, assembled and prepared for display during worship. The amount of care and prayer that goes into each one is greatly appreciated by the recipients of these treasured gifts of prayer.

Some have asked "How can I help?" There are many ways that your help is needed. First, please pray for our ministry as well as for those that receive our quilts. If you like to sew, we have an immediate need for quilt tops that have been made with masculine fabrics. Also, donations of 100% cotton fabric are always appreciated.

We are always eager to expand our ministry and would like to invite each of you to attend one of our gatherings. Come and see what we do – no experience necessary! Come to chat. Come to sew. Come and pray with us. Next meeting dates: (we meet at the Power House next door)
 Monday, Sept. 21, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
 Saturday, Oct. 3, 9 am – 1 pm (workshop)
 Tuesday, Nov. 10, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
 Saturday, Jan. 23, 9 am – 1 pm (workshop)

Contact Alice Cantwell at 847-360-1619 (alice.cantwell@comcast.net) or Gail Schrader at 847-548-5735 (gschrader50@sbcglobal.net) if you'd like more information about Prayers & Squares Prayer Quilt Ministry.

Worship Arts Staffing News...

Over the past several months there have been significant changes in hours and responsibilities in Worship Arts staffing. Laura Kline is remaining at Joy!, reducing her time to 20 hours per week as the Worship Arts Director and will be responsible for the coordination and planning of all elements in weekly and special worship services. Laura will also coordinate the contemporary worship band, and serve as the point of communication for all areas of worship. Jennifer Marvin will remain a part-time employee at Joy! as the Assistant to the Worship Arts Director / Choir Director and will assist with the coordination and implementation of elements in the worship service as well as coordinating any "special" musical ensembles including the Joy!ful Noise choir, and the Joy! Brass / Orchestra. Dave Pilkington is the newest addition to the Worship Arts Staff and will serve as the Media Team Director, responsible for coordinating activities of the various media teams (sound, video, presentation, etc...) and will be the point of contact for all media related activities.