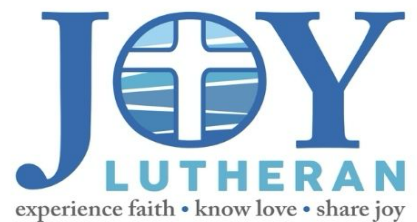




2025

ANNUAL REPORT



501 State Rd. 35 | PO Box 217 | Centuria WI 54824 | www.joylutheranwi.org | 715.646.2357



Joy Lutheran comes together in service to our community locally and globally to experience faith that comes from God's word; to know the love of God and to share the joy of our faith through Jesus Christ.

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JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda – Sunday February 15th, 2026

- 1. Call to Order:** Lindsay Spindler
- 2. Reading of Mission and Vision Statements**
- 3. Opening Devotions:** Pastor Angie
- 4. Establish a Quorum**
- 5. Additions and Approval of the Agenda**
- 6. Appointment of Tellers**
- 7. Approval of Minutes of 2025 February Annual Meeting and 2025 November Congregational Meeting**
- 8. Pastor's Report**
- 9. Generosity Discussion**
- 10. Luther Point Presentation and Discussion**
- 11. Election of New Council Members**
- 12. Adjourn Meeting**

Next Congregational Meeting will be held in November 2025. Date TBD by Council and will be published in advance.

JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes – February 9th, 2025

1. **Call to Order:** Deborah
2. **Reading of Mission and Vision Statements**
3. **Devotions:** Pastor Angie
4. **Establish a Quorum** – Quorum Established
5. **Additions and Approval of the Agenda** – Motion to accept the Agenda as presented by Chris N/2nd Ashley S Approved
6. **Appointment of Tellers** – Sarah Campbell and Lonnie Ellefson
7. **Approval of Minutes November Congregational Meeting** – motion to accept both February 2024 and November 2024 Congregational Meetings as presented by Bruce C/2nd Ashley S Approved
8. **Pastor's Report** – report in Annual Meeting packet, no additions
9. **Youth Director Report** - report in Annual Meeting packet, no additions
10. **Financial Review** – Audit Committee found no discrepancies in their Financial Review. 2 recommendations regarding offering deposit process and invoice approval process were offered to the council. Council decision was made to continue with existing processes. Thank you to the Audit Committee was offered.
11. **Generosity Discussion** – Generosity kickoff during Lent. Time and Talents Survey will be available each Sunday for congregation members to sign up for various ways to serve our congregation. People were encouraged to sign up for the various committees in the church.
12. **Election of New Council Members** – Outgoing and remaining council members were introduced. Candidates for council were introduced. New council candidates are: Lindsay Spindler, Rod Sempf, Terrie Lunsman, Dave Schultz, Lydia Pfiefer, Ron Skog. Deborah opened nominations from the floor. Hearing none a motion was made to close nominations by Bruce C/2nd Chris N Approved Motion to cast a unanimous ballot for all the candidates was made by Lonnie E/2nd Terrie L Approved by a show of hands
13. **Adjourn Meeting** - Motion to adjourn by Ashley S/2nd Sandy C Approved

JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH
November Congregational Meeting Minutes – November 16th, 2025

1. Call to Order: Lindsay Spindler

2. Reading of Mission and Vision Statements

3. Devotions: Pastor Angie

4. Establish a Quorum: Met

5. Additions and Approval of the Agenda: Motion to approve agenda as presented – Rod/Brent approved

6. 2026 Proposed Spending Plan – Motion by Deborah / second by Bruce as follows: Motion to adjust the proposed 2026 Spending Plan to restore support staff salaries to the 2025 level and to re-evaluate giving at a congregational meeting at the end of the second quarter of 2026. Motion approved.

7. Adjourn Meeting: Motion to adjourn by Sandy / Brent. Approved.

Pastor Angie's 2025 Message

Dear Friends in Christ,

This year my star word was joy. Really, truly! Joy! What a wonderful word. As I look back on this past year and step into the one ahead, I find myself returning to a simple but profound truth of our faith: joy and sorrow are not opposites. They are two sides of the same coin, held together in the life of Christ and, if we are honest, in the life of our church.

This year has brought deep joy. We have witnessed to acts of generosity—through faithful giving, shared time, and a willingness to serve beyond comfort. Because of you, meals were shared and belly's were fed, Christmas gifts were purchased and given anonymously, safe spaces were shared, prayers were offered, quilts made and given, and hope was carried into places that needed it most. We accomplished these things through partnerships with several community partners; Partners for Recovery, Feed My Neighbor Community Food Pantry, the Community Referral Agency, Unity School District, to name a few. We do these things not for the sake of numbers or recognition, but because we are committed to faithfully living out our mission: experience faith, know love, and share joy. We are called to be a presence for good—showing up where love was required. For this, I am deeply grateful.

At the same time, this year has held sorrow. Together we have walked one another through loss, uncertainty, illness, and death. Some of you carry grief that is still very close to the surface. Scripture does not ask us to deny this pain or rush past it. Instead, it invites us to tell the truth—to lament, to wait, and to trust that God is still at work even when the path feels unclear. I am grateful for a new ministry here at Joy, born out of sorrow, called Grace and Grief. This ministry offers a space and a place for those grieving, whatever the grief, and is led by faithful people who know grief and know the need for a group like this.

The good news is that our faith makes room for both joy and sorrow. The cross of Christ and his resurrection from the dead remind us that sorrow does not have the final word—and that joy, when it comes, is rooted in God's love for us, and for the world. As a congregation, we are learning what it means to be present for one another through both.

As we move into this new year, I want to encourage you to be bold. Not loud. Not reactionary. But courageously faithful. The church has never been called to simply reflect the culture around it. We are called to be countercultural—to practice generosity in a world of scarcity, grace in a world of judgment, patience in a world of urgency, and hope in a world that often settles for cynicism.

This kind of faith will cost us something. It always has. But it is also the kind of faith that bears lasting fruit. Thank you for trusting God with your time, your resources, your questions, and your hearts. Thank you for being a people who choose love even when it is difficult, and faith even when the outcome is uncertain. I am hopeful—not because I think the year ahead will be easy, but because God is faithful, and because we are in this together.

May we continue to be a church that tells the truth, loves deeply, and lives boldly—holding joy and sorrow together as we follow Christ into whatever comes next.

Your partner in Faith, Love, and Joy, 



STATISTICAL INFORMATION FOR 2025

2025 Year-End-Membership:

419 Total Active Members

230 Active Households

314 Active Adult Members

105 Active Child Members

Average Worship Attendance: **106**

BAPTISMS

Sylvan Orion Hendricks
Grady Randall McCabe
Freya Ellen Flor
Kashton Burnett Wilson
Carter Michael Spengler
Kassidy Phyllis Bever
Theodore Michael Hearn
Elliana Jay Turner
Jorry Aleace Olson
William Clayton Hoag
Oliver Andrew Farrell
Dominick Allen Diedrich
Jennifer Ann Diedrich

DEATHS

Lew Allen Lunsman
Joyce Lita Skog
Janine Evon Anderson
Carol Mae Laier
Jason Merle Nelson
Lois Voss
William Edward Johnson
Rolland Yunker
Mary Ann Lunsman
Kenneth Kellogg
Chris Nelson
Darryl Howard Hanson
Margie Ester Johnson
Donald Lewis Beaulieu
Tom Larson

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED

Behning, Frank and Angela
Ethan and Natalie

Christensen, Jacob and Miranda
Henry, Scarlett, Louis

Deloach, Wayne and Mary Ellen

Lundgren, Benjamin and Rayannon
Audrey and Whitney

Lundgren, Hailey

Sogge, Marie

Thompson, Zoey

Tourville, Eugene and Mary

Wilson, Josey and Mollie
Kashton

Wold-Berg, Dillion and Rachel
Atlas, Elliana, Ethan, Kylie, Arianna

JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH

2025 Disbursement Summary and 2026 Approved Spend Plan

	2025 Approved Spend Plan	2025 Disbursements	2026 Approved Spend Plan
GENEROSITY			
Northwest Synod of Wisconsin/ELCA	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.44	\$1,000.00
Luther Point Bible Camp	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00
Apple River Conference	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Missionary Sponsorship	\$1,100.00	\$1,080.00	\$0.00
World Hunger	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$7,150.00	\$8,280.44	\$2,050.00
PASTOR			
Salary	\$57,535.00	\$57,535.20	\$59,261.05
Housing Allowance	\$17,260.00	\$17,259.96	\$17,260.00
Supply Pastor	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pension/Health Insurance	\$34,320.00	\$38,093.04	\$34,320.00
Continuing Education	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Mileage	\$4,000.00	\$3,487.82	\$4,000.00
Publications	\$500.00	\$44.00	\$300.00
TOTAL	\$114,915.00	\$116,420.02	\$115,641.05
ADMINISTRATIVE			
Office Administrator	\$31,030.00	\$31,030.08	\$31,030.00
Marketing & Online Media Manager	\$10,161.00	\$10,161.12	\$10,161.00
Youth Minister	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$22,000.00
Treasurer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Employer FICA	\$8,700.00	\$11,566.94	\$10,000.00
Office Supplies	\$3,000.00	\$2,169.31	\$1,500.00
Postage	\$1,400.00	\$772.00	\$500.00
Copy Expense/Lease	\$4,500.00	\$4,682.47	\$4,000.00
Continuing Education	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Conventions/Retreats	\$1,000.00	\$450.00	\$200.00
Technology Fund	\$1,500.00	\$2,650.04	\$1,000.00
TOTAL	\$61,591.00	\$63,481.96	\$80,391.00
PROPERTY			
Custodian	\$5,660.00	\$5,660.16	\$5,660.00
Insurance	\$4,500.00	\$5,971.59	\$4,500.00
Church Maintenance	\$5,000.00	\$3,281.34	\$3,000.00
Gas - Church	\$3,600.00	\$3,094.11	\$3,600.00
Electricity - Church	\$7,800.00	\$6,040.97	\$6,500.00
Snow Removal	\$1,800.00	\$1,463.00	\$1,800.00

Telephone/Internet - Church	\$1,900.00	\$1,831.99	\$1,900.00
Garbage - Church	\$1,320.00	\$1,440.00	\$1,440.00
Sewer/Water - Church	\$1,300.00	\$1,128.96	\$1,500.00
TOTAL	\$32,880.00	\$32,544.73	\$29,900.00
WORSHIP			
Worship/Altar Supplies	\$2,500.00	\$2,076.63	\$2,000.00
Church Music Supplies	\$500.00	\$594.94	\$500.00
Piano Tuning/Organ Maintenance	\$400.00	\$380.00	\$400.00
Organist/Musicians/Special Music	\$7,000.00	\$6,425.00	\$6,000.00
TOTAL	\$10,400.00	\$9,476.57	\$8,900.00
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION			
Childrens Ed (0-6th Grade)	\$1,200.00	\$489.29	\$700.00
Youth Ministry (7th-12th Grade)	\$1,200.00	\$2,023.40	\$1,200.00
Adult Education	\$1,000.00	\$973.35	\$500.00
TOTAL	\$3,400.00	\$3,486.04	\$2,400.00
HOSPITALITY & OUTREACH			
Generosity	\$2,000.00	\$1,882.95	\$1,000.00
Materials/Supplies/ Advertising	\$600.00	\$193.00	\$300.00
TOTAL	\$2,600.00	\$2,075.95	\$1,300.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$232,936.00	\$233,133.10	\$240,582.05

Indirect Expenses

\$39,906.01

JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH
2025 Monthly Financial Comparison

Month		2024		2025
JANUARY	INCOME	\$ 18,841.95		\$ 15,320.00
	EXPENSES	\$ 17,174.56		\$ 20,446.11
FEBRUARY	INCOME	\$ 14,063.80		\$ 14,466.04
	EXPENSES	\$ 19,331.08		\$ 17,912.76
MARCH	INCOME	\$ 20,161.60		\$ 15,282.00
	EXPENSES	\$ 20,368.28		\$ 20,576.65
APRIL	INCOME	\$ 23,915.30		\$ 19,702.21
	EXPENSES	\$ 20,012.64		\$ 19,900.41
MAY	INCOME	\$ 18,851.60		\$ 14,540.90
	EXPENSES	\$ 19,435.36		\$ 18,926.86
JUNE	INCOME	\$ 15,005.10		\$ 14,778.90
	EXPENSES	\$ 18,313.74		\$ 19,341.78
JULY	INCOME	\$ 12,845.25		\$ 12,801.85
	EXPENSES	\$ 18,481.52		\$ 18,802.96
AUGUST	INCOME	\$ 16,457.51		\$ 20,767.00
	EXPENSES	\$ 18,529.97		\$ 19,135.92
SEPTEMBER	INCOME	\$ 17,401.22		\$ 17,500.48
	EXPENSES	\$ 16,820.34		\$ 20,455.62
OCTOBER	INCOME	\$ 12,504.35		\$ 16,410.12
	EXPENSES	\$ 20,094.07		\$ 19,307.42
NOVEMBER	INCOME	\$ 15,618.29		\$ 45,378.43
	EXPENSES	\$ 19,841.65		\$ 19,048.88
DECEMBER	INCOME	\$ 37,364.50		\$ 22,379.10
	EXPENSES	\$ 18,924.71		\$ 19,277.73
Grand total income		\$ 223,030.47		\$ 229,327.03
Grand total expenses		\$ 227,327.92		\$ 233,133.10

JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH
2025 Savings and Investment Account Summary

	Beginning Balance	Deposits	Interest	Withdrawals	Ending Balance
General	\$2.03	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2.03
Youth	\$1,558.46	\$1,485.50	\$4.59	\$1,485.50	\$1,563.05
Memorial	\$8,656.46	\$0.00	\$24.30	\$0.00	\$8,680.76
Generosity	\$3,013.09	\$660.00	\$8.73	\$0.00	\$3,681.82
Subtotal	\$13,230.04	\$2,145.50	\$37.62	\$1,485.50	\$13,927.66
RCU 9 month CD	\$59,342.14	\$0.00	\$2,861.46	\$0.00	\$62,203.60
ELCA Mission Investment Fund	\$51,956.19	\$0.00	\$424.24	\$15,000.00	\$37,380.43
Edward Jones Investments	\$20,919.14	\$17,500.00	\$2,774.49	\$0.00	\$41,193.63
TOTALS	\$145,447.51	\$19,645.50	\$6,097.81	\$16,485.00	\$154,705.32

ELCA Mission Investment Fund Withdrawals: \$15,000 to cover Joy's day to day expenses

JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH
2025 Year End Revenue Summary

REVENUE	2024 Revenue	2025 Revenue
General Offering	\$207,144.81	\$209,591.03
Cash	\$12,069.61	\$12,292.00
Thrivent	\$867.00	\$1,214.00
World Hunger	\$1,075.00	\$1,300.00
Missionary Sponsorship	\$1,829.05	\$755.00
Meals on Wheels	\$0.00	\$4,200.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$223,030.47	\$229,352.03
Indirect Income	\$43,579.60	\$40,018.83
Checking account interest earned	\$16.52	\$23.09

Indirect income is money coming in for specific items that were expenses for the church. For example, the Joy Foundation gave \$3,136 to replace the kitchen hood. That money was used to pay the bill for the kitchen hood (indirect expense).

2025 FRISTAD CEMETERY REPORT

A committee for the Fristad Cemetery was formed last year.

The committee needs to thank the following people:

1. Dan and Sarah Campbell for updating the cemetery map.
2. Sarah Campbell and Steve Beyl for getting the cemetery sign replaced and mounted.
3. Steve Beyl for repairing the shed and improving the driveway.
4. Rod Sempf and Steve Beyl for mowing last summer. Rod has agreed to mow next summer.
5. Steve Beyl for repairing a headstone that had tipped over.
6. Wayne Swenson for helping to locate the plot markers.
7. Elizabeth Ebensperger for working with Thrivent to access the cemetery funds.
8. And lastly, Jerry Livingston for all he did in the last few years.

The committee has decided to raise the cost of a gravesite to \$400.00 effective March 1st, 2026.

Submitted by Joel Ditlefsen

WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Joy Lutheran JOYful Hands (WELCA) 2025 Report

JOY Lutheran Church women and families provide opportunities for education, fellowship, and mission, to support each other, our church home, our community, and global missions through prayer, discipleship, justice, and stewardship.

On-going throughout year 2025: Sponsor Missionary first Sunday of each month; Altar Guild established to prepare communion; Bible studies use Gather Magazine, Fellowship Hall Décor Committee; JOYful Quilters, 12 Funeral Lunches provided; Supplying most kitchen needs and upkeep; supporting Synod gatherings; host Fellowships; volunteering at Blood Drives

Quilting Ministry gave 116 quilts to surround recipient with warmth, caring, prayers to local people in shelters, Community Food Pantry, congregation members, Veterans, those who are seriously ill, suffering tragedy, or for a happy occasion; meet every Wednesday; fabric donations are welcome

Sanctuary Committee changes paraments and keeps pew needs updated

Sunshine Committee remembers our members through correspondence: birthdays, in sympathy, care center residents, military, those on the Prayer Chain

March- Lenten Supper: Loaded Baked Potato Bar

April- Bakeless Bake Sale provides Youth Camperships to Luther Point Bible Camp

May- Bold Women's Day on Mother's Day four generations of women share their faith stories;

June - Milltown Fisherman's Party BINGO; Father's Day Fellowship

July- Centuria Memory Days Pie & Ice Cream Social and Variety Show proceeds support camperships, Salvation Army, Shop-with-a-Cop

August- Luther Point Summer Celebration and Quilt Auction (JOYful Quilters donated 2)
Collected, packed, delivered Lutheran World Relief School Kits

September- Lefse Making for Bazaar which raised \$1600 of the total proceeds

October- Bazaar raised over \$6000 for community needs with contributions from many members of our congregation

November- Fellowship raised \$200 for Synod educational ministry

December- End-of-year giving by JOYful Hands raised throughout the year, \$10,320 to community organizations and staff; Cookie Walk- \$444 proceeds to ELCA Good Gifts Program

JOYful Hands (WELCA) 2025 Treasurer's Report

Balance Sheet

Joy WELCA

As of Jan 21, 2026

Report Type: Accrual (Paid & Unpaid)

ACCOUNTS	Jan 21, 2026
Assets	
Total Cash and Bank	\$2,608.92
Total Other Current Assets	-\$2,879.89
Total Long-term Assets	\$0.00
Total Assets	-\$270.97
Liabilities	
Total Current Liabilities	\$0.00
Total Long-term Liabilities	\$0.00
Total Liabilities	\$0.00
Equity	
Total Other Equity	\$0.00
Total Retained Earnings	-\$270.97
Total Equity	-\$270.97

A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP MARTIN

To the amazing disciples of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin,

As I reflect on this past year, one of the most significant moments came at the fall Conference of Bishops, which was held immediately following the installation of our ELCA Presiding Bishop, Yehiel Curry. In his first address to the conference, he talked about a one word focus for his first year, *connection*. As soon as he said it, I was already engaged, especially since that has been one of my goals in my first year!

As I tour this great synod of ours, I've already been to over 50 churches representing over 60 congregations. It helps a lot when I can experience a worship opportunity where multiple churches come together, as was the case Menomonie and Eau Claire! Needless to say, I enjoy learning about the history and more importantly, the people that each congregation has to offer. So distinctive, yet at the same time, we are all still a part of the same team, connected by our common faith and common mission to love our neighbors.

Speaking of our neighbors, I have made it a priority to lift up the important ministry of Neighbor to Neighbor, staffed by Deacon Lidix Montoya and supported by a newly appointed board at last year's synod assembly. It was at that same assembly where we adopted a resolution to raise \$175,000 over three years to support this ministry that is already making great strides in supporting the Latino community throughout our synod. I would invite you personally to contribute toward this goal and/or increase what your church contributes to this ministry on an ongoing basis. Neighbor to Neighbor is a ministry that is so critical right now as so many of our Latino friends live in constant fear of deportation, which can inhibit their ability to even worship in public! We have a tremendous opportunity to show them that they are loved and valued, so let's come together for this important purpose.

Another highlight of 2025 was attending my first ever Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix. In addition to electing the first black Churchwide Secretary (CeeCee Mills) and Presiding Bishop (Yehiel Curry), we also passed yet another social statement, *Faith and Civic Life*. The rostered leaders of the synod will be spending some time digesting it at our upcoming Winter Theological Event in hopes to equip them to lead a study in your church. I would strongly encourage you to participate in this study as it addresses many of our current realities, including the issue of Christian Nationalism. This is a strong movement that is sweeping the country, but remains largely in conflict with our Lutheran beliefs. *Faith and Civic Life* conversations can help us all remain rooted in our faith and help us understand how to be engaged in life beyond worship.

To close, I'd like to thank you for your relationship to the synod. We truly can do more together, staying *connected*. We cannot reach out to the many different groups throughout the synod without your generosity. May we continue to innovate in 2026 as we work collaboratively together and share the love of God throughout our communities!

Privileged to serve,

Bishop Martin

