

JOY LUTHERAN FUL NEWS

April 2024

MISSION STATEMENT

Joy Lutheran is a community of faith, love, and JOY! We will serve our community and God's world by; faithfully welcoming and including all people, serving and meeting the needs of poverty and hunger, striving for justice and peace in the world, and gathering together as a JOYful community to be refreshed and sent.

JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH
 PO Box 217
 501 State Road 35
 Centuria WI 54824
 715-646-2357
 joylutheranwi.org

OFFICE HOURS
 Tues & Thurs 9a to 2p

PASTOR
 Angela Kutney
 715.222.7915 (Cell)
 angkutney@gmail.com

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR
 Meg Anderson
 715.501.6648 (Cell)
 office@joylutheranwi.org

MEDIA & MARKETING
 Deanna Wheeler
 deanna@joylutheranwi.org

March Sunday Morning Worship Attendance:

3rd | 118 10th | 82 17th | 89 24th | 160 31st | 225

March Generosity (General Fund):

3rd | \$3,058 10th | \$4,106 17th | \$1,685 24th | \$5,069 31st | \$2,784

HOLY SPIRIT STUDY | PASTOR ANGIE

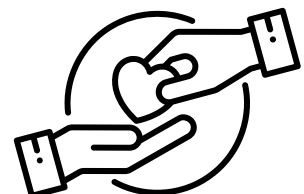
Tuesday's in April (16th, 23rd, and 30th) from 6:30pm to 8pm.

Join Pastor Angie for a spirit-filled study during the season of Easter. During this 3-part study we will learn more about the third person of the Trinity. We will study what scripture teaches us about the Spirit and the Spirit's activity in our lives and the world. Luther's Large & Small Catechism's, Lutheran liturgy, and our personal experiences will help shape our time together.

Come for 1 or all 3. Bring your preferred translation of the Bible and be ready for whatever the Spirit has in store. This study will help set the stage for the next study, "Death by Baptism" - coming in June.



	February	Year to Date
Income	\$ 14,063.80	\$ 32,905.75
Expenses	\$ 19,331.08	\$ 36,505.64
Difference	\$ (5,267.28)	\$ (3,599.89)



If you would like to receive council minutes or congregational financial reports please contact the Office. Call (715) 646-2357 Email office@joylutheranwi.org

CONFIRMATION 2024

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

DINNER | 5:30PM TO 6:00PM

CLASS | 6:00PM TO 7:00PM

FAITH5 FAMILY 2024

SUNDAY MORNINGS @ 9:15AM

JOIN PASTOR ANGIE BEFORE WORSHIP FOR EDUCATION AND FUN - BRING THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

The custom of Holy Humor Sunday was rooted in the musings of early church theologians like Augustine and Gregory of Nyssa. They expressed the idea that God played a practical joke on the devil by raising Jesus from the dead.

"Risus paschalis - the Easter laugh," the early theologians called it.

HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY



Holy Humor Sunday services give Christians not only an opportunity for ongoing celebrations of the greatest miracle in human history - Jesus' resurrection - it also gives each of us an opportunity to celebrate, and give thanks for our own, smaller, resurrections in this world and this life.

**APRIL
7TH**

**We invite you to dress the part!
Wear funny hats, glasses, shirts, etc.**



JOY LUTHERAN WELCA | DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that Joy Lutheran WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) strives to be inclusive of everyone to participate in our ministry? All women, men, young adults, teens, and children are welcome to contribute. We believe we can all work together to help make our congregation and our church a thriving, welcoming place where our mission statement has meaning. We invite you all to help us experience our faith, know love, and share joy as we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, society, and the world. We appreciate everything our congregation does to help our ministry thrive. Join us!

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL OFFICERS ELECTED

PRESIDENT | Deborah Schmalz VICE PRESIDENT | Sandy Christensen SECRETARY | Emma Livingston

The Flowers, the Cross, and Fran (On Spreading JOY, by Lydia Pfeifer)

Fran is a very special lady, and I love her. She's not only a friend of mine but also my mom's. She is one of the ladies at church who befriended my mother during her last visit to the US in 2016. Until now, they exchange letters and sweet tokens with one another.

One Sunday after church, Fran invited me to come to her house to show me her incredible blooming Amaryllis. I can see through the excitement in her eyes whatever she was offering me to see was out of the ordinary. Her welcoming joy was so infectious and compelling that I was ready to go and see, and so I did that afternoon.

Before I knocked on her door, Fran was already opening it! She graciously welcomed me with a big hug, held my hand to come in and led me right away to her dining room where this amazing plant was the centerpiece! Indeed, it was breathtaking! This single-stemmed- Amaryllis have 8 huge blooms, I mean HUGE like pie plate sizes, with very rich crimson red color! This was a godly moment I thought, and I was very happy to see the peak of its blooms! That was why Fran wanted me to come for she knew if I waited for another day, it would not be as spectacular as it was at that moment. (I researched on Google - the average amaryllis produces 4-5 flowers per stalk). The plant was a gift from her daughter-in-law and Fran made sure that it would be enjoyed by everyone. She told me that there were 8 more people after me who came and see it that day.

I thought that was already amazing but to my delight, Fran proceeded to show me her well-thought Lenten window seal décor. It was a cross made of barn nails welded together, the pointed tip cut off and polished. I sensed how she treasured this ornament because she became teary-eyed when she was explaining what it meant to her. First, she said, the cross was a gift from her dear friend from church, Richard (Dick) Schmalz, whom we lost that same week. Dick had made many crosses and gave them as gifts to friends. Fran cherishes the cross so much because it will always be a reminder of Dick and their friendship. Fran has an intentional artistry. She put this cross in between 2 pieces of striped cloth with dried twigs laid on them and placed them on her window seal by her bedroom hallway. Yes, she purposefully placed them there so she can be reminded of the hope and joy that the Lenten season brings as she wakes up in the morning and goes to bed at night. Still teary-eyed, she explained to me that when she passes by her window and sees the cross, she remembers the Lord's great mercy – letting Jesus to suffer so much to save us from our sins. Her reflection reference is from Isaiah 53.5. "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes, we are healed." What a deep faith!

I am sharing this story because it is one of the godly moments I have seen and experienced joy with Fran. If you trace back this story, Fran was sharing with me the joy she experienced from the people she cherished and loved with me. If her daughter in law did not give her the Amariyls, and if Dick did not give her the cross, then Fran and I had never had the reason to get together that day, and I will not be able to share this story of JOY to you. JOY is one of God 's gifts to us. It may come in simple gestures that we share or give to others, AND THE SPIRIT BLOWS IT AWAY and we never know how far it will go. But one thing I am sure of is JOY continues spreading widely and powerfully!



PRAYER LIST

PRAYER CONCERNS: Linda Gillitzer, Kim Grossmann, Delores Huser, Ken Kellogg, Mary Marlette, Ron Marlette, Chris Nelson, Tom Rivers, Joyce Skog; Rhiannon (Kathy Adascheck's granddaughter), Sarah Hanson (Dave Priebe's daughter), Paulette Kapaun (Joyce Skog's daughter), Debra Leubner (daughter of Pam Kruger), LouAnn Schwanz (Annette Skog's aunt), Larry (Dawn Swanson's brother), Jennifer (Dawn Swanson's niece), Cheri VanGundy (Cheryl Peper's relative).

ALL MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY and THEIR FAMILIES: William Anderson (Dawn Swanson's son), Megan Anderson, Tina Brady (Edgell), Andrew Flor, Josh Kreft, Cameron Wood.

REMEMBER THOSE IN CARE CENTERS and AT HOME: Betty Lou Chryst, Connie Dahl, Delores Huser, Bill and Marge Johnson, Carol Lair, Mary Lunsman, Mary Mattson, Marlin Snyder, Erling Voss, Lois Voss, Bob and Ruth Yira.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Apr 1

Adrien Olson
Nicholas Hoag
Ketelyn Hendricks

Apr 3

Linda Appelholm
Sarah Campbell
Pam Livingston

Apr 4

Lydia Pfeifer

Apr 6

James Hexum

Apr 7

Kathy McKenzie

Apr 8

Lorraine Turner

Apr 9

Rodney Sempf

Apr 10

Ava Muller
Jean Chryst

Apr 11

Caroline Hoag

Apr 14

Isabelle Hansch
Morgan Anderson
Leah Galle

Apr 16

Cooper Carlson

Apr 17

Sara Route

Apr 18

Carol Johnson
Edward Sass

Apr 21

Janice Lehmann

Apr 23

Harlow Hanson

Apr 24

Robert Krueger
Troy Gross
Sandy Christensen

Apr 25

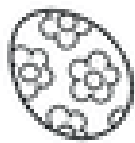
Rick Regnier

Apr 30

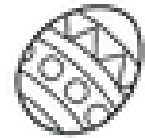
Dave Grossmann



ACTIVITY OF THE MONTH



SPRING & EASTER



Y F J E O S L P E N B M A L T N E L P Q
A N C H G O O D F R I D A Y I A M M J V
H E N K P D K Z Z T L V G U X D O E T L
U P P U T N U H M Q R A B B I T S L V S
O V U U B F F A M I L Y Q M I U C Y U A
O N B L E S S I N G S W E X S W R O U X
I S A C R I F I C E N M W B R R O A U Y
O G N D F Z C C V H E O G D D O S O H N
Q P R C U C H O C O L A T E U N S B M K
Y F O Q E I E B S L W Z C H I C K B N T
Y Q B P B L V W E E N Z X N C X K C N T
R S W A A O E Y H O T C R O S S B U N V
E P E R S Y D B T G M Y A M I R A C L E
L R N A K W Y T R P A P R I L N Z J M L
Y I Y D E R E D R A B O N N E T D R K T
Z N S E T U H A N P T U C R Z V T H C Q
S G X Z Q C J B S A H I X Z V N U G R X
G O Q U J E D Q O T C D O S L I U S V I
G L O Y L O H K E L E R A N R E Y A R P
E B Z R C H U R C H Q R E A D A K F H S

WORD LIST

APRIL
BASKET
BLESSINGS
BONNET
BOUQUET
BUNNY
CANDY
CELEBRATION

CHICK
CHOCOLATE
CHURCH
CROSS
EASTER
EGGS
FAMILY
GOOD FRIDAY

HOLY
HOT CROSS BUN
HUNT
JESUS
LAMB
LENT
MIRACLE

NEWBORN
PARADE
PRAYER
RABBIT
SACRIFICE
SPRING
YELLOW

Homemade
GIFTS MADE EASY

JOY LUTHERAN

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PLACE LABEL HERE



Join us on Sundays
10am Worship with Holy Communion