

Tidings of Joy

Volume 10, Issue 11

November 2026

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SCAN FOR ON-LINE
GIVING



Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back. Luke 6:38

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

November always opens a treasure chest of precious memories for me. Some of my favorites happened at my Nana's house. My great-grandmother, Mom-Mom Schulke, supervised her two daughters, Nana and my Aunt Fannie, as they fussed in the kitchen, preparing a sumptuous feast worthy of one of Norman Rockwell's paintings on the cover of the Saturday Evening Post.

Being not only the oldest of my siblings but also the oldest cousin, I was the first to get promoted from the "kids' table" in the back room to eat with the adults in the formal dining room, a privilege and rite of passage that I had long awaited. As it turns out, there was much more fun at the kids' table, but there was no going back. Not then. Not now.

That's the thing about November. It is a month of transition. The weather changes with the seasons. And with the first Sunday in Advent (11/29), we start

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Our mission is to share the Good News of grace and love with all through worship, service, and fellowship.

MEET OUR STAFF

CHURCH STAFF & OFFICERS

Pastor-

Intern- Linda Murphy

Administrative Assistant-

Zsuzsanna Jobbagy

Director of Music-Silas Daniel

Choir Director-Linda Aker

Handbell Director-

Melissa Daniel

Sexton-Carson Faris

Treasurer-Caroline Bernard

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS:

President- Karin Campbell

Vice President-John Voyles

Secretary- Linda Aker

Treasurer-Caroline Bernard

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Richard Cognetti

Carson Faris

J.R. Frederiksen

Doug Juhl

Diana O'Neill

Paul Spellman

Patty Willoughby



<i>Date</i>	<i>Name</i>
11/01	Kenneth Erhardt
	Elise Cognetti
11/02	Bob Zander
11/04	Amelia Reese
11/07	Donna Schmidt
11/08	Bill Mooney
11/09	John Kraus
11/12	Mary Ann Schmitt
	Dave Selden
	Cyndie Charcalla
11/13	Ed Mathena
11/14	Dennis Christianson
	Sally Ahrens
11/16	Jim Whitman
	Sharon Green
11/17	Ilene Casper
11/20	Linda Erhardt
11/21	Joe Wood Sr.
11/22	David Robinson
11/24	Paul Stevens
11/27	Jean Beaver
11/30	Colleen Wise



<i>Date</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i># Years</i>
<i>11/23</i>	<i>John & Irene Henderson</i>	<i>58 yrs.</i>
<i>11/24</i>	<i>Ron Piper & Patty Willoughby</i>	<i>42 yrs.</i>

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a new year on the church calendar, wave sayonara to St. Matthew for a few years, and welcome St. Mark. A new year, a new beginning, and a new chapter in our faith family.

Gratitude, individually and collectively, reaches a peak every November. We thank God for all that has been, and not just for all His blessings. We give thanks for His healing grace through every hurt, every loss, and every disappointment. As a family of faith, we can give thanks for all that will be. We have learned the hard lesson that Emmanuel, "God with us," is not a nickname. It is a promise.

May God continue His work through us in this place as we remember those who are hungry, those without life's basic needs, and those without a family. May we especially be mindful of those in our midst who may have an empty seat at their holiday table.

With a grateful heart,

Intern Linda Murphy



October 12, 2027

Dear Joy Family and Friends,

A couple of weeks ago, we shared updates on the Campus Expansion and Improvement project at Joy. Work is underway on the garage storage phase and dry wall is going up. Things are happening!

Today, we are delighted to announce the members of our dedicated Capital Campaign Steering Team who will serve through the Spring of 2027. This team will be responsible for raising funds for the Campus Expansion.

Campaign Steering Team

Mike and Kathi Parli, Campaign Steering Team Co-Chairs

Judy & Joe Spillane, Inspiration Team Co-Chairs

Wayne Armstrong, Commitment Team Chair

Lynn Ihlenburg, Events Team Chair

Thomas Randall, Information Team Chair

We are diligently working behind the scenes with our consultants to prepare a successful campaign which will run mid-January through mid-March 2027. We look forward to sharing more as that season approaches.

While we are not ready to ask for gifts yet, you are certainly welcome to make a down payment on a future gift should you want to do that this year. If you decide to make a down payment on a future pledge, we will place it in a reserve fund for campaign projects and/or use it for some upfront project costs.

We feel the joy and momentum building all around the church. As a team, we know that our work together, in partnership with you, will ensure our building's spaces reflects our community spirit of open arms for all. Thank you for being a part of this ministry we all share.

With joy,

The Campaign Steering Team

ADVENT

The season of HOPE, LOVE, JOY and PEACE



Join Intern Linda to learn more about Advent
The history, the meaning and the many ways Lutherans celebrate

November 23 11:00 a.m. Swenson Hall

LIFE SOUTH BLOOD MOBILE IS COMING.... WE NEED YOU

**Summer is over, but you can still be a LIFESAVER!
JOY's last blood drive for the year 2026 is approaching!**

The Blood Mobile will be on our campus on:

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2026—7:30 am – 1:30 pm.

Let's keep our momentum of success going . The magic number is

15

**Christmas is a time for giving!
Give the gift of life!**



Donors will receive a "T" Shirt:



colors may vary • white subsidies last



Welcome to Our Church

On September 27th with great JOY we welcomed 11 new members to Joy Lutheran.

Each received a new (easy to read) name tag to help us learn their names.

I encourage everyone to wear their name tags- located in the racks just before the entrance of the sanctuary.

Shirley Reents

LEGEND

MF: Moved from/Previous Residence

H/I: Hobbies and Interests

O: Occupation

PCI: Previous Church Involvement

F: Family

** Associates

DORIS T. GALLAGHER

OTOW-AMERICANA

MF: Pennsylvania

O: Retired

F: Daughters- Michelle, Roxanne; Granddaughter-Sophie

H/I: Line Dancing, walking, biking, quilting, gym, horse farm volunteer.

EVERITT H. and KRISTA LYNN KRUG**OTOW-ASHFORD**

MF: Cedar Rapids, Iowa

O: Everitt: Retired general contractor

Krista: Graphic Designer-sales (printer)

F: 1 Daughter Melissa (Lisa)-Son-in-law Bruce, grandson August

H/I: Everitt: Wood working, fishing, card games

Krista: Quilting and traveling

PCI: Members at First Lutheran, Cedar Rapids

WILLIAM (BILL) J. and CAROL LYNN LOVAS**JB RANCH**

MF: Ashtehula, Ohio

O: Bill: Retired Insurance

Carol: Retired Director of Board of Elections and Lab tech

F: 1 Daughter Dawn, 3 grand daughters, 1 great granddaughter

H/I: Carol: Doll Collector

PCI: Bill: Ocala West UMC trustee- Messiah Lutheran in Ashtehula

Carol: President of Boad at Zion Lutheran-trustee and congregational care ministries

EDWIN (ED) EUGENE MATHENA**OTOW-LONGLEAF RIDGE**

MF: Massachusetts

O: Retired-4 Years/Air Force-BA to repair navigation equipment,
Verizon Bell Telephone Co.

F: 5 Children -- 6 Grandchildren

H/I: Artwork—Watercolor Painting; Gym

SUZANNE H. NEWELL**KINGSLAND COUNTY-FOREST GLEN**

MF: Weeki Wachee, FL; originally from NY

O: Retired-Regional Administration with Cide now power sports

F: Married 43 years, 1 daughter, and 1 grandson

H/I: Sewing, needlework, reading, diamond painting

PCI: Nativity Lutheran Church at Weeki Wachee, choir, hand bell choir, and classrooms. Already part of the Wednesday Quilting and JOY's bell choir.

GAIL C. SEGRAVES

MF: Ohio

O: Retired Paralegal

F: Significant other Chris Roberts

H/I: Cooking, baking, and gardening

PCI: Church vestry- Altar Guild

HAROLD and JANE SKIDORE**WELLINGTON-STONE CREEK**

MF: Citrus County (Pine Ridge) FL

O: Harold: Still working-ATM Service

Jane: Working part time (Own business) and RN

F: 1 Daughter (Christina), 1 Deceased son and 5 grand children

H/I: Harold: Golf and guitar

Jane: Swimming, cards, mahjong

PCI: Members at Hope Lutheran in Citrus

Harold: Choir, AV, and church council

Jane: Involved in several events

**DAVE STERLING WEAVER and
DONNA RAE GLOSHEN**

SOLAIRE-STONE CREEK

MF: Dave: Fort Meyers, FL

Donna: Pennsylvania

O: Dave: Retired-Banking/Finance

Donna: Retired-Banking

F: Dave: 1 Son

Donna: Daughters Michelle, Roxanne; Grand daughter - Sophie

H/I: Dave: Bocce, Bunco, Travel

Donna: Line dancing, walking, biking, quilting, gym, horse farm
volunteer.



2026 FALL ANNUAL CLEANING DAY

PREPARING OUR SANCTUARY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

SATURDAY, November 14 -- STARTING AT 9 AM

PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX

WINDOW WASHING CREW: Bring bucket, squeegee, sponge, dry towels if you have them.

CHAIR CLEANING CREW: Bring hand vacs, or vacuums with upholstery attachments.

DUSTING & SURFACE CLEANING CREW: Bring cleaning cloths & sponges.

Everything else will be provided, including encouragement, appreciation, and direction.

**THERE WILL BE COFFEE, BEVERAGES AND A LITE BREAKFAST FOR
ALL THE WORKERS.**

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA PLANS FOR JOY

This is the time of year we have set aside to celebrate God's greatest blessing to us, the gift of His Holy Son, Jesus Christ. As we enter the season of Advent, we turn our thoughts and hearts to the preparation of the coming of our Lord.

As part of this celebration, we will beautify our church and decorate the altar with Christmas Poinsettia Plants.

We will order 60 plants this Christmas. There will be order forms available in the Narthex from November 15-December 6, 2026 (price will be available after order is placed with the nursery.) If you wish to order a plant, please fill out the form (PRINT) with a check or cash for the total amount, and place it in the offertory plate using a pew envelope (marked Poinsettia).

Let us make this a joyful Christmas and fill our church with beautiful plants to welcome the Christ Child into our hearts.

In His Love,

Vicki Valli

REMINDER:

**SWENSON HALL WILL BE CLOSED FOR
MEETINGS DUE TO**

ELECTION DAY, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD

The office will be open; please make sure you enter through the red doors of Swenson Hall for church-related business.

JOY ENDOWMENT FUND

The Joy Lutheran Church Endowment Fund is up and running. Following the congregation's vote last year, we are well on our way to building a lasting legacy that will support Joy's mission for years to come. An endowment fund invests donor gifts and uses the generated income for charitable purposes. The income from Joy's fund will further Joy's mission by: supporting seminary students, ministry interns, and young adults in mission; seeding innovative, previously unfunded ministries; funding new and existing projects that respond to human need and make Christ known.

The congregation council has appointed the following members of the Endowment Fund Committee: Kurt Cook, Scott Farrell, Judy Gunson, Wayne Kofink, and Patty Willoughby (council liaison).

Thanks to your faithfulness and the council's strategic planning, the fund is already showing wonderful momentum. A CD designated by the Church Council holds \$9,082.20. Generous individual gifts of \$10,505.05 are being held in a savings account. The \$19,587.25 total is an outstanding beginning! To maximize these resources, our next milestone is \$25,000, which is the usual minimum required to secure professional investment management for the fund.

As you consider your year-end giving, please prayerfully consider a special gift to the Endowment Fund. You may use a pew envelope, check the "Other" line, and write "Endowment Fund." Or simply write "Endowment Fund" on the memo line of your check. You may also contribute online <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z9NX/campaign/C-16JWC>

You can also make a tax-smart gift via your IRA. If you hold a traditional IRA and are required to take a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) before December 31, you can execute a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). By directing a portion of your RMD straight from your IRA account to Joy Lutheran Church, the distribution may be entirely tax-exempt. Please consult your financial institution or advisor.

Your generosity ensures that the faith, love, and ministry we share today will continue to bless our community and honor Christ far into the future. Thank you for your continued support of Joy Lutheran Church!

BIBLE READINGS FOR--NOVEMBER 2026

SUNDAY	FIRST READING	PSALM	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
Nov. 1 ALL SAINTS	REVELATION	PSALM	1 JOHN	MATTHEW
	7:9-17	34:1-10,22	3:1-3	5:1-12
Nov. 8	AMOS	PSALM	1 THESSALONIANS	MATTHEW
	5:18-24	70	4:13-18	25:1-13
Nov. 15	ZEPHANIAH	PSALM	1 THESSALONIANS	MATTHEW
	1:7,12-18	90:1-8[9-11]12	5:1-11	25:14-30
Nov. 22 CHRIST THE KING	EZEKIEL 34:11-16, 20-24	PSALM 95:1-7a	EPHESIANS 1:15-23	MATTHEW 25:31-46

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS ON:

NOVEMBER 1, 2026 AT 2:00 AM.

What You Need to Know

- **Time to Adjust:** Set your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Saturday night, October 31, 2026.
- **WEDNESDAY Evening Service**
Returns to **5:30 pm**
on Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2026

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational Meeting for Joy Lutheran Church will be Sunday, December 6, at 9:30 a.m. The Agenda will include election of Congregation Council Members and adoption of the 2027 budget. All Active Confirmed Members have the right to vote at the meeting.

To comply with a Constitutional requirement, there will be a very brief congregational meeting on Sunday, November 8, at 9:30. The only business at this meeting will be to move the Congregational Meeting date to December 6. The meeting will then adjourn. Members may attend this meeting if they wish, but a quorum is not necessary.

Wishing each and everyone a very Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving. I pray that you are all surrounded with family and friends. May your spirit be lifted in gratitude and praise to God. May your table be bountiful. May God surround you with His loving arms, today and always.

Susan

Ps: I found this prayer and felt drawn to share it with you.

Remembering Others

O God, when I have food,
help me to remember the hungry;
When I have work,
help me to remember the jobless;
When I have a home,
help me to remember those who have no home at all;
When I am without pain,
help me to remember those who suffer,
And remembering,
help me to destroy my complacency;
bestir my compassion,
and be concerned enough to help;
By word and deed,
those who cry out for what we take for granted. Amen.

- Samuel F. Pugh

Timber Ridge Angel Tree:

It is that time of year again, when we think of the people who spend the holidays alone, and often forgotten. Our Angel Tree for the residents of Timber Ridge will be set up in the Narthex the week of November 9 th. We are getting 50 names from Timber Ridge this year. (We ran out of them last year.) We are starting early to make sure everyone has time to pick up their gifts and get them back in time to deliver them to Timber Ridge.

We will follow the same procedure as last year. Each angel will have a number. On the table near the tree will be a sheet listing each angel #. When you select your angel, please sign your name and phone number next to the corresponding number on the sheet. When you bring the gift back, we ask you to mark the date you returned it on the sheet. (FYI: M is not a size designation, it stands for male)

Gifts are due back no later than December 12th, 2026.

This way we can make sure we get all the angels back.
Please remember to wrap your gift and affix the angel to the outside.
Thank you for your generosity.



SAVE THE DATE!~~SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2026~~11:00 AM

Annual WELCA Christmas Luncheon & Program

**Entertainment starts in the Sanctuary at 11:00 am.
Tickets are \$10 and will be on sale starting November 15, 2026.**

Lunch will follow in Swenson Hall.

COME:

FOOD~~~~~FELLOWSHIP~~~~~ENTERTAINMENT

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Daylight Savings Time Ends Worship Svc. 8:15 & 11:00 A	2 Internship Mtg. 9A Member Care 1P Charlie Bible Study 1P (N) Cap. Camp. 3:30 P	3 ELECTION DAY- Hall is voting site! <i>Only Office Is Open for Church business</i> W&M 6:30P(N)	4 Happy Hands 9A Joyful Hands 9A Christian En 1P WELCA Bd12 Off Key C 1:30P Choir 3P Worship Svc 5:30P	5 LMM 8A Publicity 1P Stewardship 3P BCR 6:30P	6 Bells 10A Cleaning Svc 10-12 A	7 Charlie & Friends 7:30A
8 Blood Drive 7:30-1:00 P Worship Svc. 8:15 & 11:00 A	9 Stephen Ministry 9:30 A Charlie Bible Study 1P (N)	10 Beginners' Bible Study 11A Property 10A Finance 1P	11 Happy Hands 9A Joyful Hands 9A Off Key C 1:30P Choir 3P Worship Svc 5:30 P	12 Wear Gloves Lunch Outreach 1:30P Council Exec. Bd. 3P BCR 6:30 P	13 Bells 10A Cleaning Svc 10-12 A	14 Charlie & Friends 7:30A
15 Worship Svc. 8:15 & 11:00 A	16 Charlie Bible Study 1P (N)	17 Beginners' Bible Study 11A Council 1P	18 Happy Hands 9A Joyful Hands 9A Off Key C 1:30P Choir 3P Worship Svc 5:30 P	19 BCR 6:30 P	20 Bells 10A Cleaning Svc 10-12 A	21 Charlie & Friends 7:30A
22 Worship Svc. 8:15 & 11:00 A	23 Stephen Ministry 9:30A Advent Pres 11A Charlie Bible Study 1P (N)	24 Beginners' Bible Study 11A Pineland Ministers' Conf	25 Happy Hands 9A Joyful Hands 9A Choir 3P Worship Svc 5:30 P	26 THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSED	27 Bells 10A Cleaning Svc 10-12 A	28 Charlie & Friends 7:30A
29 Worship Svc. 8:15 & 11:00 A Hoggtowne Bronze Concert 4:00 P	30 Cap. Camp 3:30 P					

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<https://joyocala.blog>

November

2026

Our vision:

***“Joy is a spiritual community sharing the
love of Christ in a challenging world”.***

