

# TIDINGS OF JOY

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2023

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*LOVE, LISTEN, LEARN, LEAD*



““So the churches were strengthened in the faith and increased in numbers daily.” (Acts 16:5)

### **Dear *JOYful* family,**

Paul disciplined Timothy and Silas after he and Barnabas parted ways. The churches (notice plural) grew in size. I doubt that any of you want to see *less* people in church. I also don't believe you want other churches to decline so that we get bigger. It's not competition. When we have a vibrant mission to love and serve others, we will be a magnet. Even those younger (for us, anyone under 55) will see what we do in Jesus' name and want to be a part of it. Value and purpose, answering the “why” question – when we strive for these, Millennials and younger take notice. Maybe they'll even get on board with what we're about!

Love God, love people, reach out. Read all about it in Luke 10.

We want people here. We want them to come back. We want to engage them, get them involved. We want to grow spiritually as well as numerically. Growth necessitates change, which means loss. Giving up what makes **us** comfortable may be required in order to reach souls who

*Continued on Page 3*

SCAN FOR ON-LINE  
GIVING



***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-Art Wuertz

Administrative Assistant-

Zsuzsanna Jobbagy

Organist/Pianist-Silas Daniel

Handbell Director-Melissa

Daniel

Sexton-Harold Decker

Treasurer-Terry Owen

### CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS:

President-Robert Irish

Vice President-

Ray Ihlenburg

Secretary-Linda Aker

Treasurer-Terry Owen

### OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS:

JR Frederiksen

Hank Groth

Ethel Kleiner

Stanley Mahabeer

Joy Olsen

John Voyles



NAME	DATE
Kenneth Erhardt	11/01
Elise Cognetti	11/01
Bob Zander	11/02
Stanley Mahabeer	11/03
Rosalie Graziano	11/04
Don Cross	11/04
Judy Nolan	11/05
Donna Schmidt	11/07
Bill Mooney	11/08
Susan Theusch	11/09
MaryAnn Schmitt	11/12
Cyndie Charcalla	11/12
Dennis Christianson	11/14
Sally Ahrens	11/14
Sharon Green	11/16
Linda Erhardt	11/20
Joe Wood Sr.	11/21
David Robinson	11/22
Paul Stevens	11/24
Jean Beaver	11/27



Name	Date	Yrs
Terry & Patricia VanEffen	11/16	50
John & Irene Henderson	11/23	55
Ron Piper & Patty Willoughby	11/24	39

*Continued from page 1* have lost their way. I truly appreciate the flexibility you all have; your adaptability to challenges; your willingness to seek a third way instead of “either/or”. Let’s keep the momentum of “Refresh” going, not just in buildings but in bodies and spirits. If a program, service, event, or ministry doesn’t make sense or fit any more, let’s pray together about it and seek God’s renewal. We shouldn’t mind feasting on gourmet burgers made from sacred cows! For those who are vegan or vegetarian, we can always try other crops and fields.

We should never be content with status quo. There is no going back, no matter how good the leeks and onions in Egypt might sound to wilderness pilgrims getting a steady diet of manna. I am excited about the new fellow sojourners we have yet to meet along the way. We can offer to share the good gifts of God’s grace, no matter what someone’s religious background may be, but especially for those who claim none. We are always stronger when working together and cooperating. It’s not always easy when “Jane” from the Midwest has to work with “Betty” from the Northeast on a church project. We will always have different ideas about procedures and practices. When I see and hear what transpires around here daily, I am gratified for the love we share, and the respect we have for one another. Observers and guests most definitely notice! Our atmosphere here reflects very well on ourselves. It is a blessing to be in ministry with affirming, JOY!ful folks!

I’ll see you in church! Love,

Pastor Art

## ***LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION***

***Next meeting – Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7:30-9:00***

Joe Spillane will be cooking, and he is fantastic!

Come for good food, fellowship, and spiritual growth!

**LUTHERAN  
MEN IN MISSION®**

**COUNCIL**

It is that time of the year in our congregation when we meet to prepare for the new year.

Please save the dates and attend the following:

**TOWN HALL MEETING**  
**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2023**  
**9:45 AM in the SANCTUARY**

The budget for the year 2024 will be presented. This is your opportunity to look over the budget and ask any questions prior to next week.

**JOY will be holding its'**  
**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**  
**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2023**  
**9:30 AM—in the SANCTUARY**  
**Election of Council Members**  
**and**  
**the 2024 Budget will take place.**

**OUTREACH MINISTRY**

**OUTREACH  
IS HOPING TO START A BRAND NEW WAY TO REACH  
THOSE IN NEED IN OUR COMMUNITY.**

We want to make a difference in the life of families struggling to put food on the table. If you have ever experienced the struggle to feed your family, you can understand what a difference this can make to a family. We are putting together eleven Dinner Boxes to feed a family of four this holiday season. The boxes will contain everything for a complete meal. We have a gift card from Thrivent, which will be used to purchase the turkeys. We are asking for the “Fixings” for the meal. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex with a single space x 11 for each item. Please sign-up as you are lead to help. We would like the items delivered by November 12th, to be put together on the 17th.

If you know of a family that could be helped, please contact the office with their name and address. Any that we do not get a personal referral for will be delivered to the Salvation Army on the 17th. Thank you for making it possible for providing a meal for the holiday.



# Seasons of JOY Concert Series

*presents the*

## UF Organ Spectacular

Organ music lovers rejoice! Prepare to be treated to a wonderful program of organ music presented by the organ students of the University of Florida's Dr. Laura Ellis.



Admission is free and the concert is open to the public. A freewill love offering will be collected to help raise funds for the JOY Handbell Choir Expansion project.



November 5, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary at JOY Lutheran.

Please scan the QR code for more info!

# Seasons of JOY

## Concert Series

To date we have raised \$7,191 of the estimated \$12,000 needed to purchase the fourth octave expansion for the JOY Handbell Choir.

We sincerely appreciate the generosity of our concert attendees and those who have made contributions outside of the love offerings collected at our events, including one anonymous contribution of \$5,000!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

November 5, 2023  
*UF Organ Spectacular*

December 17, 2023  
*3rd Annual Christmas Concert*

January 21, 2024  
*In the Bleak Midwinter*

February 28, 2023  
*Voice Students of Emily Heumann*

## THANK YOU!!!!

**A HUGE thank you to those who brought and bought those wonderful baked goods!!! We had such a wonderful variety of goodies!!**

**I can't express how overwhelmed I am by the generosity of the women (and gentlemen) of JOY!!! Not only was it a huge success, it was a SELL OUT!!!**

**And a very special thank you my Joy angels (Patti Adler, Sharon Green and Joy Olsen). I could not do this without their wonderful help!!!**

***Edie Heinzen***

## BLESSING of the ANIMALS

Terry Owen did a wonderful job getting our garden area ready!



Not a creature was stirring during the service. I think all of them knew this was special and just for them!



**NO HORSE!**  
(Maybe next year.)  
That did not stop Terry from giving each of our guests a special welcome. There were treats galore for our four legged friends.







Keep those glasses ready and eyes on our Sunday bulletins.

The dates have not been set yet— however————

Our Annual Toy Drive , to brighten our community's children this Christmas, will be coming up.

Our TimberRidge Angels , angel ornaments for the residents of TimberRidge to have something under their Christmas Tree will be ready soon.

All the information will be forthcoming in our Sunday Bulletins.

We want to thank each one of you for your generosity in reaching out to our community not just during the holidays, but all year long. You are all a blessing, not just to JOY, but to everyone whose lives you touch.

God bless each and everyone!



# **THE WOMEN OF ELCA To Welcome All Women of Joy**

# SoZo Kids

A Program of the Help Agency  
of the Forest, Inc.  
Est. 1993



Dedicated to the children & famil  
of the Ocala National Forest

[www.sozokids.org](http://www.sozokids.org)

## WELCA

### Luncheon

Thurs.,  
Nov. 16, 2023  
at 11:30 AM

Guest Speaker:  
**DOUG HOUCK**  
of SOZOKIDS

Did you know there are  
approximately 15,000  
people living in the Ocala  
National Forest?



## THANKSGIVING POT LUCK

We are having a Thanksgiving Pot Luck Dinner in *Swenson Hall on Thursday, November 23, 2023 at 2:30 pm.*

You are invited to come and break bread with your sisters and brothers in Christ. Turkey and Ham will be provided by Cecil Carter. You bring the side dishes and desserts.

A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Please sign up if you (and guest/s) are coming, what covered dish you are bringing, and if you can help in any way.

By the way, take out will be available for you to take to any shut-ins you know.

### BIBLE READINGS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

SUNDAY	FIRST READING	PSALM	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
10/01/2023	Ezekiel 18:1-4. 25-32	Psalm 25:1-9	Philippians 2:1-13	Matthew 21:23-32
10/08/2023	Isaiah 5:1-7	Psalm 80:7-15	Philippians 3:4b-14	Matthew 21:33-46
10/15/2023	Isaiah 25:1-9	Psalm 23	Philippians 4:1-9	Matthew 22:15-22
10/22/2023	Isaiah 45:1-7	Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	Matthew 22:15-22
10/29/2023	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Psalm 46	Romans 3:19-28	John 8:31-36



### *Home-bound & Assisted Living*

#### Homebound

JoAnne Boyer  
 Frank Jarvis  
 Barb Johnson  
 Bill Mooney  
 Mike Noble  
 Merrick Owen  
 Diane Plesser  
 Barbara Todd  
 Pat Ulrich

#### Brentwood at Fore Ranch

Ralph Wright

#### Bridgewater Memory Care

Odd Bjerkmann

#### Bridgewater Park Assisted Living

Bob Vogel

#### Brookdale of Canopy Oaks

Marilyn Husted

#### The Bridge at Ocala

Grace & Arnold Hansen

#### Marion Woods Asst.

George Spong

#### Life Care Center of Ocala

Violet Frey

#### Palm Gardens

### *Military*

Ray Allen  
 Jessie Bleikhardt  
 Christopher Borkenheim  
 Gorwin Boyd  
 Jamie Boyd  
 Jeremiah Caspersen  
 Cody Ehulund  
 Daniel Miller  
 Benjamin Numa  
 Samuel Stephenson  
 Matt Willerick

### *Around the World*

Caregivers  
 Congress  
 First Responders  
 Hospital Workers  
 Police Departments  
 President  
 Relief Workers  
 Children of War-  
 Foster Parents  
 Missing People  
 Persecuted Chris-  
 tians  
 Travelers

Economy  
 End all the vio-  
 lence  
 Environment  
 Jobs

ALL THE PEOPLE OF  
 THE WORLD  
 Especially:

China  
 Cuba  
 Egypt  
 Haiti  
 Iran

Israel  
 Iraq  
 Kenya  
 Libya  
 N. Korea  
 Pakistan  
 S. Korea  
 Syria  
 Ukraine  
 USA

**Current Needs:**

Elizabeth Barker  
 Jim Barrett  
 Odd Bjerkmann  
 Tom Burck  
 Jack Cawley  
 Marguarite Cox  
 Pat Crilley  
 Elizabeth  
 Aud Enslow  
 Freebourn Family  
 Andrew, Denise, & Julie  
 Gause-**Improved**  
 Nancy Grosselfinger  
 Bill Hubbard  
 Linda Jacobs Family  
 Lynne Shineman Juhl  
 Tom & Mary Ellen Kelly  
 Richard Kleiner-**Recovered**  
 Betsy Kutscher  
 Jim Kuzmanovich

Art Menut  
 Mary O'Rondo  
 Daniel Painter  
 Pam  
 Kristen Quigley  
 Tom Rasswell  
 Shirley Reents & Family  
 Kyle Rusk  
 Marc Sendik  
 Phil Shirley & Family  
 Pat Smith  
 Lee Stewart  
 Mike Sylvester  
 Stephen Thomas  
 Vicki Valli  
 Candace Walsch  
 Ken Werner  
 Cathy Willoughby  
 Mary Wright  
 Norman Zanchettin

*Please note:  
 For those who have  
 improved and  
 recovered we offer our  
 prayer of Thanksgiving to  
 God.*

*Remember to "Pray without  
 ceasing!" He is always  
 listening.*

**Ongoing Needs:**

Noreen Anderson  
 Sean Aronson  
 Paul Bispo  
 John Bond  
 Jennifer Brady  
 Lucy Brown  
 Helen Buckley  
 Jerry Campbell  
 Alfonso Cave  
 Sharon Cawley  
 Darlene Clairmont  
 Kylene Clemens  
 Ed Correo  
 Barbara Dean  
 Deena  
 Linda & Ken Erhardt  
 Scott Fair  
 Millie Fetterhoff  
 Morris Foreman  
 Katie Fransen  
 Fred  
 Joanne Olson Finnorn

Beth & JR Freder-  
 iksen  
 Richard Freebourn  
 Timothy Gause  
 Maleila Gonzalez  
 Chris Gorman  
 Jennie Halvorsen-  
 Norm Halvorsen  
 Randolph Hardy  
 Ray Heinzen  
 Diane Hendricksen  
 Bertha Hendrickson  
 Bobby Hyatt  
 Bob Irish  
 Barbara Johnson  
 Joyce Kerlin  
 Joe Kenney  
 Kerry  
 Patsy Kleeman  
 Lori Kleiman  
 Cheryl Kemmer

Cleo LeForge  
 Cindy Leonard  
 Grant Liples  
 Helen Lofsten  
 Tim Long  
 Dorothy McCord  
 Mike  
 Phyllis Minos  
 Karl Nettles  
 Dylan Nerud  
 Asta Marie Nielsen  
 Mike Noble  
 Ed & Terry Owen  
 Joe Parra  
 Pat & Paul  
 Mary Pfeiffer  
 Diane Plessner  
 Sharon Polus  
 Linda Raffa  
 Karin Rokjar  
 Art Schneider

Elizabeth Smithson  
 Lorraine Souch  
 Sonja  
 Denise Stevens  
 Karyn Thomas  
 Jeff Tuckey  
 Pat Ulrich  
 Cindi Valli  
 Greg Valli  
 Joel Weiss  
 Barbara West  
 Irene Willoughby  
 Earl Winblad  
 Irene Winton  
 Marge Wlodarczyk  
 Bill Wojcik  
 Raymond Woodall  
 Ralph Wright

# JOY CINEMA PROUDLY PRESENTS!

Bring a  
Friend

**FREE !!**

## COMING ATTRACTION!

Relax &  
Enjoy

**FREE !!**

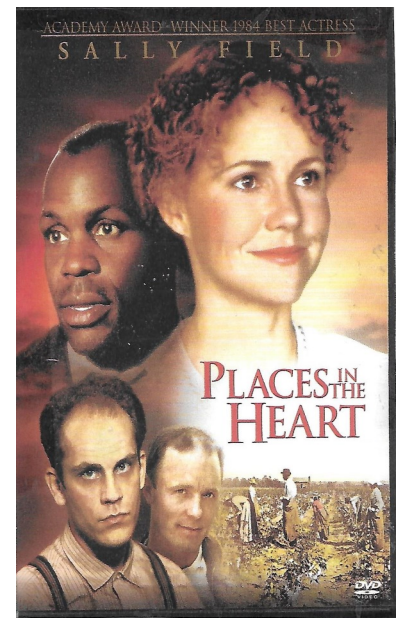
*Tuesday,  
November 28,  
2023*

*At 1:30 PM*

*JOY  
Lutheran  
Church  
Sanctuary*

*352-854-4509  
ext. 2*

In 1935 rural Texas, recently widowed Edna Spaulding (Sally Field) struggles to survive with two small children, a farm to run and very little money in the bank -- not to mention a deadly tornado and the unwelcome presence of the Ku Klux Klan. Edna is aided by her beautician sister, Margaret (Lindsay Crouse); a blind boarder, Mr. Will (John Malkovich); and a would-be thief, Moze (Danny Glover), who decides to stick around to teach Edna how to plant and harvest cotton.



**BIBLE STUDY**

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**Charlie Meier's Monday  
Bible Study is  
suspended until the beginning of 2024.**



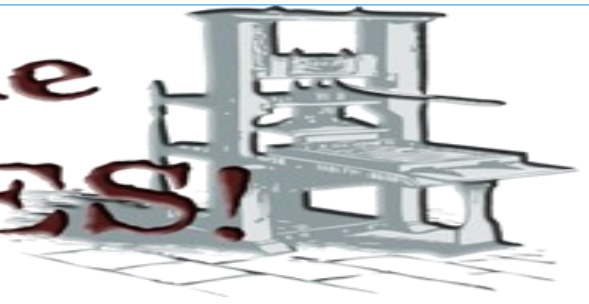
2023

SUN	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Joyful Hands- 9:00am  Happy Hands 9:30AM  Worship 5:30pm	2 LMM Breakfast 7:30-9:00 AM "ROMANS" Bible Study 11:00 AM	3 TOPS 8-9:45am BELLS 10:00 AM	4
5 Worship Services: 8:15 and 11:00 am  Town Hall Mtg. 9:45 A  Organ Concert 3 PM	6 Stephen Min. 9:30AM  Member Care 2:30 PM  Worship & Music 6:30PM	7 <b>Bulletin Deadline</b>	8 Joyful Hands- 9:00am  Happy Hands 9:30AM  Worship 5:30pm	9  "ROMANS" Bible Study 11:00 AM  Council Exec Bd. 3 PM	10 TOPS 8-9:45am BELLS 10:00 AM	11
12 Worship Services: 8:15 and 11:00 am  Congregational Meeting 9:30 AM	13	14 <b>Bulletin Dead- line</b> Property Team 10:00 AM  Finance I 1:00 pm  Outreach 2:30 PM	15 <b>Tidings Dead- line</b> Joyful Hands- 9:00am  Happy Hands 9:30AM  Worship 5:30pm	16 WELCA Brunch 11:30 AM  "ROMANS" Bible Study 11:00 AM <b>Cancelled</b>	17 TOPS 8-9:45am BELLS 10:00 AM  Thanksgiving Dinner Boxes Assembled & Delivered	18
19 Worship Services: 8:15 and 11:00 am	20 Stephen Ministry 9:30AM	21 <b>Bulletin Deadline</b>  Council 1:00 PM	22 Joyful Hands- 9:00am  Happy Hands 9:30AM  Worship 5:30pm	23 THANKSGIVING  OFFICE CLOSED  Pot Luck Dinner 2:30 PM Swenson	24 TOPS 8- 9:45am ? BELLS 10:00 AM?	25
26 Worship Services: 8:15 and 11:00 am	27 "The Call" Bible Study 1:30PM- Narthex	28 <b>Bulletin Dead- line</b>  Tiding Angels- 9:30am  JOY Cinema 1:30 PM—Sanctuary	29 Joyful Hands- 9:00am Happy Hands 9:30AM  Worship 5:30pm  Interfaith Dinner Delivery	30 "ROMANS" Bible Study 11:00 AM		

Please observe **article deadlines** for both the **Sunday Bulletins** and the monthly **Tidings**.  
 Please submit proofed, copy ready articles  
 as word or pdf documents .  
 Deadlines are 8:00 am on dates indicated on calendar.  
**Prayer Request deadlines** are 8:00 am every Tuesday  
 for inclusion in the week's list. Thank you.

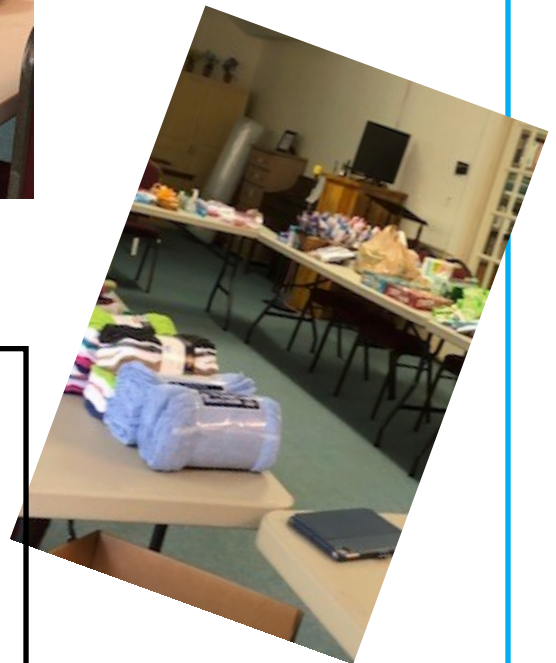


# STOP the PRESSES!



Just as I was getting ready to publish the Tidings our Awesome Volunteers completed assembling the enormous outpouring of love as shown by your donations for our homeless community. I had to include it. Your donations provided 133 Food Kits and 67 Toiletries kits. We even included a card in each kit. How can we ever **THANK YOU!** Each of you is truly a blessing not only to JOY but to our community as well. **God bless you!**

## BEFORE



*May God bless you and surround you with His loving arms.*  
*Your Friends at*  
**JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**7045 SW 83<sup>RD</sup> Place**  
**Ocala, FL**  
**352-854-4509**



## Thanks to our “Assembly Line” members:



**AFTER**



Contact Us

7045 SW 83rd Place  
Ocala, FL 34476  
Phone: 352.854.4509  
Fax: 352.854.4845  
email: joyocalafl@gmail.com  
www.joylcocala.org  
www.facebook.com/joylutheranchurch.ocala



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Ocala, FL

Non-Profit

Organization



2023

*Our Mission is to:*  
**SHARE THE LOVE**  
**AND GRACE OF JESUS CHRIST THROUGH**  
**WORSHIP AND SERVICE**

S. W. 80th Street

JOY Lutheran Church

S. W. 83rd Place



S. R. 200

4.5 Miles to I-75

Paddock Downs Homes

4.5 Miles to County Hwy 484