

JOY MISSION CHURCH Newsletter

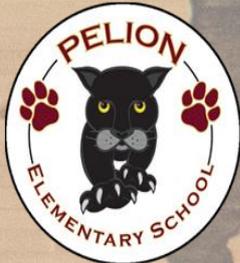
Joy on mission...the hands and feet of God!



Look at all the love we will be sharing with the students and teacher at Pelion Elementary School:

- 20 full-sized Jansport bookbags
- 96 pencils
- 90 pen/pencil pouches
- 72 highlighters
- 72 Post-It note cubes
- 72 black Expo dry erase markers
- 48 blue Expo dry erase markers
- 48 red Expo dry erase markers

These are just the supplies allocated through our Ministry of the Month funds. Many more donations have been made through your generous individual support. Thank you for getting this new school year off to a wonderful start!



upcoming EVENTS

Ladies & Little Ladies Tea

Sunday, September 19th at Mayer Memorial in Newberry SC.

Tickets: Contact Mayer at (803) 276-3163 or Tricia Price at (803) 276-4587.



Carolinas Lutheran Women Convocation

Saturday, October 2nd from 9:30-1:00 at Faith Lutheran in Faith, NC. \$8 registration includes lunch. Contact Pastor Paulette for more information.



We are NOT the mission. Our mission is the Great Commission:

“And Jesus came and said to them,

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of age.” (Matthew 28:18-20) This is why we exist – to:

Love God. Love neighbor. Serve with joy in Jesus’ name.

JOY MISSION CHURCH

We love God, love neighbor, and serve with joy in Jesus' name through worship, fellowship, and discipleship.

PASTOR'S CORNER

Known By Our Love

Do you ever get a particular Bible verse stuck in your head? For me, lately, the verse has been John 13:35 – ***“By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”***

As a congregation of the North American Lutheran Church, we talk a lot about disciples – both *being* disciples and *making* disciples. But what IS a disciple?

There are myriad ways we could define the word “disciple.” The dictionary app on my computer says a disciple is “a personal follower of Jesus during his life, especially one of the twelve apostles,” or “a follower or student of a teacher, leader, or philosopher.” The word is derived from the Latin *discipulus*, which means “learner.” So, a disciple is a student who follows and learns, in our case from Jesus.

We follow Jesus by living as He commands us - ***“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.” This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”*** (Matthew 22:37-29; also Mark 12:29-31, Luke 10:27, and Deuteronomy 6:5).

As Jesus teaches us, being a disciple and making disciples is so much more than just following and learning from Him. These disciplines are both absolutely necessary for our walk in faith. But being a disciple and making disciples demands that we

love God with our whole self AND love our neighbors (and that includes ALL people) as we love ourselves. Discipleship is living out with others the love that Jesus has shown for us.

Living this love includes, but is not limited to: worshipping God regularly, studying His Holy Word individually and within the community of faith with which He has blessed us, and serving others in Jesus' name through acts of kindness, care, and concern. We are also to reserve judgement of others (Matthew 7:1), consider others more highly than ourselves (Philippians 2:3), patiently bear with one another (Ephesians 4:2), forgive one another (Colossians 3:13, Matthew 18:22), and routinely sacrifice our wants and desires for what God asks of us (Ephesians 5:21).

In short, being a disciple of Jesus is making disciples for Jesus by giving our lives to love Him and others like He loves. (1 John 4:19).

Let us pray:

Lord Jesus, we are your disciples. Help us to live as you would have us and to love as you love us. We ask this to your glory and in your holy name. Amen.

In the joy of Jesus' love,
Pastor Paulette



Joy Mission Church
200 Merrimac Court
Lexington, SC 29072
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