

JOY MISSION CHURCH Newsletter

We are a congregation on mission for Christ!

October

Ministry of the Month:



Disaster Response

As a congregation, we donated:

- 104 contractor trash bags
- 102 pairs of cotton gloves
- 100 pairs leather gloves
- 100 rags
- 50 jugs of bleach
- 54 dish cloths
- 50 kitchen kits boxes
- 37 kitchen tools
- and 300 Scripture cards

Christ-followers from all over the Carolinas assembled a total of **167 flood buckets** and **50 kitchen kits** to help and give hope to those recovering from natural disasters.

**THANK YOU,
Joy, for your
donations!**

November

Ministry of the Month:

We collected a mountain of **paper towels, toilet tissue, and facial tissues** for families at Chris Myers' and delivered them after the Thanksgiving Eve meal. Thank you for sharing the love of Christ in a big way!



How is God calling YOU to serve?

Worship Team: Pr. Paulette (803) 767-7231
Fellowship Team: Karen Price (803) 206-5423
Discipleship Team: Pr. Paulette (803) 767-7231
Property Team: Steve Teer (803) 513-4399

GROW IN FAITH

Special Worship Services

12/6, 13, & 20 7:00 p.m.

Holden Evening Prayer

12/24 11:00 a.m.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

12/24 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight
Service w/Holy Communion

12/25 11:00 a.m.

Lessons & Carols

12/31 4:00 p.m.

Senior Ministry Christmas
Carol Sing-Along at Lakeside
Place Senior Living

• Women's Bible Study - Thursdays 10 a.m.

• Music Mondays:

○ Choir - 2nd & 4th Mondays 6 p.m.

○ Brass - 3rd Mondays 6 p.m.

• Monday Bible Study - 2nd & 4th Mondays 7 p.m.

• Women of Joy - 4th Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

• **RESTARTING in JANUARY:** Lutheran Men of Joy –
on 4th Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

• **RESUMING in JANUARY: Life-to-Life Discipleship**

○ Wednesdays (on Zoom) 7:15 p.m. AND

○ Sundays (in person) 9:30 a.m.

• Prayer Ministry – meets monthly on Wednesdays.

All members of Joy, please plan to attend our Annual Congregational Meeting on 12/10 9:45 a.m. We will elect two new council members and a nominating committee, vote on the 2024 ministry plan budget, and hear our 2023 annual report. Watch for more information to arrive by mail.

THANK YOU to our musicians who help lead us in worshipping the Lord each week!

Is God calling you to become a member missionary disciple of Joy? Contact the pastor for more information.

JOY MISSION CHURCH

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

DISCIPLESHIP CORNER

Jesus teaches,

**“Heaven and earth will pass away,
but my words will not pass away.**

**But concerning that day or that hour,
no one knows, not even the angels in heaven,
nor the Son, but only the Father.**

Be on guard, keep awake.

For you do not know when the time will come.”

Matthew 13:31-33

Happy New Year! The Season of Advent marks the beginning of a new Church year. In our consumerist, outcome-driven society, we tend to skip right over Advent altogether and jump headlong into the Christmas Season – buying, wrapping, rushing, checking off lists, planning festivities, and totally stressing ourselves out trying to get everything done before the big day. But this is not how Jesus wants His followers to spend our holy-days.

Advent means “coming.” It is a time of reflection and preparation, a time of repentance and renewal, a time to take a pause from the hustle and bustle of this most wonderful (and busiest) time of the year. As we prepare our hearths and homes for our Christmas celebrations, we should also take time to prepare our hearts for Christ to come again. During Advent, in addition to regular Sunday worship services, we will offer a mid-week

respite to settle our souls and focus our hearts on Jesus through prayer and worship together. Holden Evening Prayer is a beautiful, peaceful service to help us do just that.

But worship is not the only way to draw closer to Jesus and ready our hearts for His return. We also need to spend time in God’s Word – reading, studying, sharing, and living it - so as to train ourselves to better know and obey God’s will. God’s Word is the “canon,” or measuring stick, by which Christians measure how well we are living. “Be on guard, keep awake.” Jesus will come without notice, so we must always be prepared and ready for that day to come and ask ourselves:

- Does my life fully align with Jesus’ purpose and intent for me?
- Where do I need to turn from my own ways and return to the Lord?
- How can I be more faithful and obedient to God’s Word today and in this new Church year?

Let’s pray about that.

Lord Jesus, you are “God with us,” our Immanuel. Thank you for coming to us, for calling us, and for claiming us as your own. Help us to repent, to rest in you, and to make our hearts ready for your return. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

To the glory of God alone (Soli Deo gloria!)
Pastor Paulette



Joy Mission Church
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Return Receipt Requested

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.**