

JOY MISSION CHURCH Newsletter

A congregation on mission for Christ and growing by the power of the Holy Spirit!

February Ministry of the Month: NALC Disaster Response Hygiene & School Kits

When someone loses everything in a natural disaster, just having simple things like a toothbrush, comb, and towel or a bookbag with notebooks and crayons, can mean so much. We aren't just helping people in need; we are giving them hope! Thank you for everyone who helped in any way with this ministry. Lutheran Men of Joy assembled 10 complete school kits (and will complete at least 12 more when a delayed supply order arrives) and personalized 48 Bibles. Women of Joy assembled 41 hygiene kits. The winners are... all who will feel the love of Christ through us!



The men worked so quickly, that we didn't get any photos of them!

March Ministry of the Month: Christian Media Center, Sierra Leone

We will be making a monetary donation and collecting music CDs and songbooks for children at Yengesa International Academy. You can contribute above and beyond our budgeted \$500, by making a check to Joy with "March MoM" in the memo line.

THANKYOU,
Mary & Scheri
for our Joy
directories!

Join us for **SENIOR MINISTRY**

March 3rd

and each first Sunday of the month at 4:00 p.m. Lakeside Place Senior Living (487 Hwy. 378 Lexington)



How are you growing in faith?

- Sunday School? Monday Night Bible Study? Women's Bible Study? Prayer Ministry? Serving on a ministry team?
 - **We have opportunities to suit any schedule.**
 - Visit joymission.church to find a place for YOU to grow!
- Coming soon: **Lutheranism 101 - Catechesis for ANY age!**

Lent & Holy Week Worship Schedule:

3/6, 13, & 20 Evening Prayer 6:30 p.m. – Vespers & the Passion Symbols Speak with meal after

3/24 Palm Sunday 11 a.m.

3/28 Maundy Thursday w/Holy Communion 7 p.m.

3/29 Good Friday Tenebrae Service 7 p.m.

3/31 Easter Day - Resurrection of Our Lord 11 a.m.

How can you serve the Lord?

- Worship Team: Pr. Paulette
 - Fellowship Team: Karen Price
 - Discipleship Team: Pr. Paulette
 - Property Team: Steve Teer
 - Safety Team: Bill Walker
- Ask these team leaders for info.

Please excuse the newsletter print quality. We are exploring options for a new color copier machine.

Spotlight on Pastor Marta Shanka

Pastor Marti grew up in Ethiopia. Her parents were both Christian missionaries. She has served as a baptized believer in Christ in ministry to the Gospel in Egypt, United Arab Emirates, and now in the U.S. Please continue to pray for her to be able to Continue in service to Christ and His Church in the Columbia area.



Pastor Marti & Pastor Paulette serving Holy Communion on Ash Wednesday

JOY MISSION CHURCH

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

DISCIPLESHIP CORNER

Thus says, the LORD, our God,
“When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.” (Isaiah 43:2)

Many of us have really been going through some stuff lately – sicknesses; surgeries; struggles with family, friends, or work; or just unusually stressful situations in general. I don't know about you, but often I feel like I am in way over my head – like I am drowning in things to get done. And when all of the things to get done are equally important, it can all be a bit overwhelming.

Well, I have good news for me and good news for you! Jesus sees you. He feels your pain. He knows your struggles. Jesus is no stranger to suffering. He knows all about it, and He is here for you!

Even when we cannot sense His presence; Jesus IS present. Even when we are spinning wildly out of control and caught in the swift current of life; Jesus IS still, even then, in control. The Great I AM IS with us, and He will never leave us nor forsake us.

As God's people – His own beloved children - we have His own promise from His holy Word: “When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.”

God WILL see us safely through anything and everything, not because we are faithful, not because we are good; but because HE is faithful, and HE is good. Our God is for us. He loves us. And no matter what, we can trust in Him to carry us through.

Let's pray about that.

Lord Jesus, thank you for sticking with us. When times are tough and we are struggling just to keep our heads above water, remind us that you've got us. You are carrying us. You love us, and you WILL not let us go. We ask this to your glory and in your holy and mighty name. Amen.

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



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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:

*Is God calling you to Joy?
Contact pastor to find out more.*