



Organized February 11, 2001

November 29, 2009

Friendly Reminders:

- **Christian Education begins at 9:30. Please be on time.**
- **No Christian Ed on November 29, December 20, or December 27.**
- **The church office will be closed December 24 until 3:00pm.**
- **Children's Choirs will sing at both services through Advent.**
- **Donations to The Carpenter's Table can be brought at any time.**
- **If you missed Sunday's sermon, check out the link on our website.**

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'Tis the Season of Advent'

Okay, Thanksgiving is over and now we're racing down the aisles toward Christmas. Not me! I must have made a New Year's Resolution in January that said I would not participate in the Sam Black Friday sales because I'm staying home and making cookies instead.

Working in the church, this time of year we receive material about Advent from many sources. "Slow down," everything says.... "Prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ." When you enter JOY on Sunday, you will see quite a transformation in our worship area as we prepare for His coming.

Advent is a time of darkness, not only because our December days are

short, but Biblically we have been living in the darkness of sin. Thus, we're waiting for the light.

Part of the seasonal look at Joy is the addition of the Advent Wreath. Early Christians used fire and light to represent Christ's coming into the world. The



wreath, a circle, came to represent the eternal victory over death through Jesus Christ. The evergreens were a sign of the faithfulness of God to God's people, even in death, and the lighted candles were a reminder of the light of Christ brought into the world.

This year, you'll see more lights in the church. As you look at these lights, and the lights at your own home,

remember as the strings of white and multicolored bulbs transform an ordinary room into a spectacular palace; Christ has the power to change us into shimmering displays of his glory and

grace. The message of Advent is that the Light of Christ is breaking through our darkness by his birth and will burn bright on Christmas with forgiveness and salvation, hope and joy, peace and love.

So, Happy Advent!!

Calendar for Advent and Christmas Eve

- Dec. 2,** First Wednesday. 5:30 Supper and Advent Activity. 4:45 Children's Choirs, 7:00 Adult Choir
- Dec. 6,** Blood Mobile, 6:00 LMM Dinner and Auction
- Dec. 7,** 7:00 WELCA Christmas Party
- Dec. 9,** 4:45 Children's Choirs, 7:00 Adult Choir

- Dec. 12,** 12:00 Family Fellowship Pizza and Craft
- Dec 13.** 5:30 Club 4-5-6, 5:30 Choir Party, 7:00 Council
- Dec. 14,** LMM Christmas Dinner Meeting
- Dec. 16,** 4:45 Children's Choirs, 7:00 Adult Choir
- Dec. 17,** 12:00 Volunteer

- Appreciation Luncheon
- Dec 20.** No CE.
- Dec. 21,** OYOJ/Goodfellows
- Dec. 23,** 7:00 Adult Choir
- Dec. 24,** Office closed until 3:00pm. 5:00 Service with a nursery provided, 7:00 Service (no nursery)
- Dec. 25,** Merry Christmas

Poinsettias and Helping Hands Ministry

First Sunday Food Bank Item:

Macaroni & Cheese

Food Donation Requests

The most needed non-perishable items include:

- Cereal
- Pancake Mix & Syrup
- Grits
- Oatmeal
- Mac & Cheese
- Spaghetti Sauce and Noodles
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Soup
- Crackers
- Kool-Aid
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Meats
- Spam, Beef Stew, Tuna & Chicken
- Canned Pastas

Coats & Blankets

Gently worn coats & blankets in good condition

If you would like to place a poinsettia in the sanctuary for Christmas in honor/memory of someone, the cost is \$10 per plant. Checks designated "Poinsettias" may be placed in the offering plate along with this form.

Throughout the year, we have opportunities to help members of JOY in need financially. This holiday season has already been hit hard

for requests. Checks designated "Helping Hands" may be placed in the offering plate along with this form.

Deadline to be included in the Christmas Bulletin is December 13th.

Amount of check _____

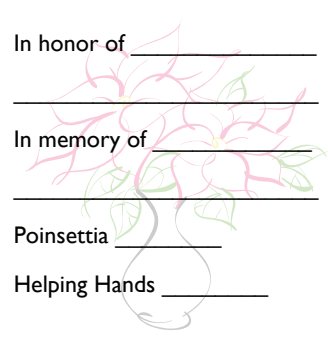
Given by _____

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Poinsettia _____

Helping Hands _____



Time to Share with Others

During the month of December there will be a box for donations of kids' clothes and coats at COOL BEANS, the new children's consignment shop on the west side of Hwy 290 near The Clock. In addition to helping children in

need, donations will entitle the giver to a 5% discount on Cool Beans purchase. This is a great way to spread some Christmas cheer, clear out some of your unused children's clothes, and support one of the newest small businesses in our

neighborhood.

Don't forget we are accepting donations of gently worn coats for The Carpenter's Table and food for the food pantry.



Times to Remember

*Joyful Readers will meet November 30, at 7:00 at the home of Jackie Taylor. We will discuss The Richest Season by Maryann McFadden and vote on books for the spring.

* Empty Nesters "Lost in the 50s and 60s Tonight" is Saturday, January 9th at 6:00 at the Church. Bring an appetizer and beverage of your choice. And bring photos of yourself in this era or high school annuals. Cost is \$5.00 per person.

* Joy Council will meet at 7:00, Sunday, December 13. Newly elected council members are invited.

*WELCA will have their

Christmas Party on Monday, December 7, 7:00pm at Mary Ann Crout's home.

*LMM will have a Christmas Dinner Meeting on Monday December 14. We will be having appetizers and desserts and everyone is asked to bring something to share.

*Office Volunteer Appreciation Christmas Party and Lunch will be Thursday, December 17 at 12:00. Bring a \$5 gift for a Chinese Gift Exchange.

*Health Screening company will be at Joy Tuesday, December 8. There is a cost and pre-registration is necessary. Call 1-800-931-4772 to schedule an

appointment for December 8.

*Joy Adult Choir will have their Christmas Party on December 13, at 5:30 at the Crout's. Bring an appetizer to share and the beverage of your choice.

Weekly Bible Studies

*Monday 12:00 Lunch Bunch. Bring your lunch and study John with Pastor Lane.

*Tuesday 8:00 Men-A-Plenty at the Beacon.

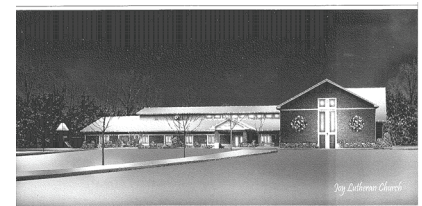
*Wednesday 9:30 Women's Bible Study with Mary Ann Bethea.

*Wednesday 10:00 Adult Bible Study. Study John with Pastor Lane.

We will receive new members on December 13. See Pastor Lane if you are interested in joining Joy.

The Joy of Christmas

The youth of Joy Lutheran Church invite you to enter into the joy of Christmas and support them as they prepare to go to the next National Youth Gathering and provide scholarships to less fortunate Lutheran youth in our synod. Beautiful Joy Lutheran Church prints and Christmas cards are now available to brighten the Christmas season and support our youth. ~Cards have "Merry Christmas" across the bottom front~ ~Beautiful Full Color~



*Cards: \$5.00 for 5
Prints: \$12.00*

Framed Prints: \$40 with 5 cards free

Youth Update

On December 6, OYOJ will be offering babysitting for adults attending the LMM Christmas Dinner and Auction. See Kelly for more information.

Goodfellow Service Project is scheduled for Monday, December 21. We will meet here at 4:00 for dinner and then continue with the project.

The Gift of Helping

We are still collecting for the Comfort kits for the Red Cross to provide "comfort" to both adult and child victims of disasters. Simple things like a clean washcloth, shampoo, soap, toothbrush and comb can make all the difference in the world to those who have lost everything in a disaster. Our Communities Ministry Team is collecting items to be assembled into these kits. Our drive will continue through 6. All items should be new and unopened. The items may be travel size or full size and extra items may be placed in the kit. For more information on items needed contact Leslie Montagne or Becky Strength.

Every year Joy participates in the **Angel Tree** project. Our support helps bring the joy of Christmas to girls and boys from ages 2 to 16, who have been placed in foster

care in Spartanburg County. This year Pam and Michael Greene are coordinating the program at Joy. On the "angel tree" in the gathering area you will find a child's wish list attached to an angel, with instructions for participating. When you take an angel, list your angel number and your family's name with Mike and Pam, and follow the simple instructions attached to your angel. Gifts are to be **unwrapped** and returned in a paper tote bag or plastic bag with the angel and child's name attached before December 13th. If you have any questions, contact Pam and Mike Green or Leslie Montagne.

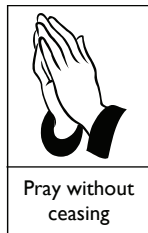


O Lord, come to us. Help us watch and wait for your coming. Help us be ready at all times for your surprising love. Amen.

Joy Prayer Concerns

Please remember these in your prayers

Our Members Claudia Bauman, Martha Christopher, Pam Green, Marian Greskovic, Percy & Dorothy Grote, Susan Heatherly, John & Chookie Holl, Helen Lutot, Lois Mall, Pegi Roberts **Expecting Parents** Ben & Kristen



Pray without ceasing

Heatherly Sullivan, Andy & Allison Wright, Arpita & Matthew Poeta, Ivey & Jay Donovan. President Barack Obama, members of Congress and those in the military especially

kid's CORNER

Everyone likes a parade! Family Fellowship will have a get together on Saturday, December 12 at 12:00; right after the Duncan Christmas Parade. We will have a Pizza lunch and make special Christmas crafts. The cost is \$10 per family. Please sign up by December 6th. This is for the whole family—older children can come, too.

Club 4-5-6 will meet on December 13 at 5:30 for a Christmas movie and snacks.. Dress in your favorite Christmas PJs. (Not a PJs kind of kid? Just wear your blue jeans or sweats!!)

LMM Auction

The annual LMM Christmas Dinner and Auction is now here!! The fun will start December 6 at 6:00. You will sit with your friends at the table you have set with your own plates, glasses, silver ware and napkins!! There will be a charge of one canned good per person to be given to The Carpenter's Table and don't forget to bring an appetizer or dessert. Proceeds will benefit The Boys' Home. Matching funds will be provided by Thrivent.

Sympathy

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to Helen Lutot on the death of her husband
Frederick Lutot
on November 10, 2009.

We are called to be the hands and voice of Christ in our community.

Attend the Synod



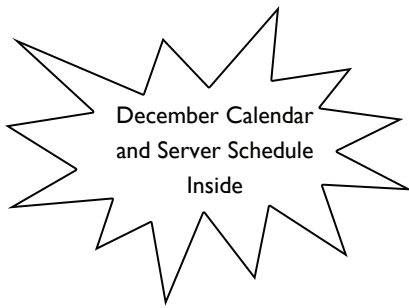
Re-visioning

Event in

Greenville on

Sunday, Dec. 6

Joy Lutheran Church



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
US Postage Paid
Permit # 12
Reidville, SC 29375

Return Service Requested

3980 Moore-Duncan Highway
Moore, SC 29369

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

www.knowjoy.com

Our Mission

As members of the Body of Christ at Joy Lutheran Church, we will... invite others to God's loving family, nurture them with God's Word and love, build with them a fellowship of friends in Christ, and send them out into service in our community and world.

Scripture Readings

First Wednesday, December 2

As the Advent Season begins, we will join as families to make an Advent Tree Calendar to use as we prepare for the coming of the Christ Child. Supper will be offered for \$3 per person/\$10 per family max, and the menu will be Soup and Sandwiches.

November 29
First Sunday of Advent
Jeremiah 33:14-16
Psalm 25:1-10
I Thessalonians 3:9-13
Luke 21:25-36

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. (Ps.25:1)

December 6
Second Sunday of Advent
Malachi 3:1-4
Luke 1:68-79
Philippians 1:3-11
Luke 3:1-6

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us (Luke 1:78).

December 13
Third Sunday of Advent
Zephaniah 3:14-20
Isaiah 12:2-6
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:7-18

In your midst is the Holy One of Israel. (Isa. 12:6)

December 20
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Micah 5:2-5a
Luke 1:46b-55
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-55

You, Lord, have lifted up the lowly. (Luke 1:52)



Newsletter & Calendar Deadline

The next mailed *Joyful News*, containing the January calendar and Server Schedule, will be dated December 27. Please submit items for that newsletter by December 15. Also contact Becky at beckyatjoy@bellsouth.net with any dates unavailable to you for serving in January.

Where have you seen God today?