

The Angel's Breath



A monthly publication of
Angel of Joy Lutheran Church

For the enlightenment and edification
Of the people of God

April 2018

ANGEL OF JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH
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CHANGE OF ADDRESS
REQUESTED



FROM THE VICAR'S DESK

From the Vicar's Desk
He has Risen!!

Revelations 20:6 reminds us that "Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection". Jesus died for us all in order that we could be saved. There is no greater gift in all of creation than that gift that Christ our lord gave on Golgotha. There is no greater reassurance than the reassurance we get from Matthew 28:20 "And surely I am with you always to the very end of the age".

An early Easter season this year hopefully marks an early spring and with it an early return of the plants, flowers and leaves that so beautifully remind us of God's presence in our world. Let the new life of Spring energize and renew your spirits in order that we may go into this new season with renewed purpose and dedication!

Thanks again to all who work so diligently in the service of God and the Church.

Humbly yours in the service of God,

Vicar Dan Simmons



UGLY QUILTS: We are meeting on Mondays, at 7:00 pm to about 8:00 or 8:30 pm to make the "Ugly Quilt Sleeping Bags" for the homeless and needy. No experience is needed to help.



BIBLE JOURNALING CLASS

Bible Journaling is held at AOJ on Thursdays, 4:00pm-5:30pm. We look at a different scripture each week. Some participants create their own interpretive artwork, while others try new projects and techniques as presented. Come join us for crafting, fun, and fellowship.

Charlotte Squyres

APRIL BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

4/27 Billy Jack Duncan
4/28 Casey Anderson



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

4/17 Billy Jack & Angela Duncan

(We ask for your assistance: Please notify the church office of any incorrect or missing birthdays or anniversaries so we can keep our lists current.)



CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Among issues discussed, we are happy to announce that attendance for the month of March averaged 39 on Sundays and 26 for Wednesday services. Also, confirmation class is going well with all members participating and anxious to learn more and be involved. Florescent lights in the hall have been repaired and two solar lights have been put out on the church sign. Sunday School is going well. The Easter egg hunt is scheduled for 9:30 Easter morning. The garage sale will be announced and we still need sale items. So far, we have a prospect of 4 youth that may go to camp this summer.

Sybil Gonzales

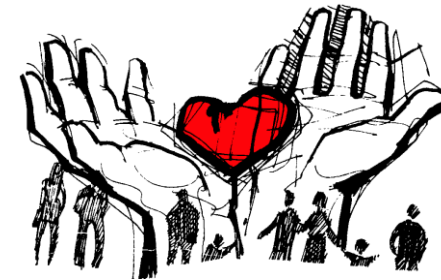


AMAZON SMILE:

Many of us use Amazon when shopping. But you may not be aware that you can actually contribute to the church while doing your shopping. AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.

All you have to do is go to smile.amazon.com instead of amazon.com and choose Angel of Joy as your charity of choice. Every little bit helps!

Brandi Simmons



Please don't forget to bring your donations for Joseph House to the church if you haven't already done so. They also appreciate desserts which can be dropped off to the facility on Ford Chapel Road at any time.

We will be starting a new mission/outreach project in April. If there is an organization that means a lot to you personally that we have not helped in the past or have not helped recently, please give me a call. I'm always open to suggestions! Thank you for all you do for the community.

Brandi Simmons

RESPONSIBILITY LIST

Music: Jeff Perkins
 Altar Guild: Sandy Noland, Brandi Simmons



THE PRAYER CHAIN

The prayer chain is being coordinated by Diana Russell. If you have a prayer request you can contact her at her home phone number 634-4272 (you can leave a message if she is not available to answer), text her on her cell phone 936-414-3944, or send her an email: dianarus1969@gmail.com.

“Keep watch, dear Jesus, with those who work or watch or weep, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your loves’ sake”

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, page 74

Don Garrison, Daisy Oehler, Elizabeth Lamb, Ruth Martin, Joe Ashford, Lisa Spies, Chuck Colson, Melinda Greene, Ken Handley, Kathy Ivy, Kenneth and Nelda Johnson, Millie Fuchs, Mark Anderson, Tara Cole, Tina & Don Belden, David & Linda Jinkins, Kay Bowers, Donna Dow, Dave Kappa, family of Andrew Guebara, Bryan Collins

All those serving in the military: Randy Bowker (US Marines), Bryan Weems (US Marines), Daniel Novak (US Navy), Blaine Berry (US Navy), Joe D Cole (US Airforce).

	4/1 <i>Communion</i>	4/8	4/15 <i>Communion</i>	4/22	4/29 <i>Communion</i>
Assisting Minister	Daniel Greene		Autumn Greene		Terry Mize
Acolyte	Sawyer Simmons	Sailor Simmons	Ethan Hammond	Quinn Garrison	Sawyer Simmons
Ushers/ Greeters	Jim Noland & Diana Russell	Charlotte Squyres & Sawyer Simmons	Bill Berry & Mark Greene	Sybil Gonzales & Tom Lamb	Jim Noland & Diana Russell
Hosts	Terry Mize	Bob Brown	Sandy & Jim Noland	Don & Yvonne Garrison	Charlotte Squyres & Tracy Mitchell
Lector	Terry Mize	Sawyer Simmons	Mark Greene	Carene Hammond	Daniel Greene
Offering Counters	Mark Greene & Tom Lamb	Tracy Mitchell & Daniel Greene	Bill Berry & Miranda Anderson	Tracy Mitchell & Tom Lamb	Mark Greene & Daniel Greene



YOUTH GARAGE SALE

The Youth are planning a garage sale for April. Now is a good time to clean out your closets, garages and attics for donations for the youth in their garage sale. See Autumn Greene for further information.



Your service to this congregation is very important.
 Thank you for your time, talents and treasures

STEWARDSHIP OF THE BODY

The prevailing view of stewardship in the church is that, since God is the source of everything we have, we are called upon to care for all of our time, talents, possessions, and resources with gratitude and faith. What about our own bodies? I think it is safe to say that when we do not have a physical problem, we are likely to take our bodies for granted. However, the Bible is clear that how we take care of our bodies is a huge responsibility. 1 Corinthians 6:19: “Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit Who lives within you...You were bought with a price. So then honor God and bring glory to Him in your body.” These scriptures at the end of 1 Corinthians conclude Paul’s teaching about the importance of sexual purity as opposed to sexual immorality, which most of us do not have trouble understanding. Then consider Romans 12:1— “I appeal to you therefore, brethren, and beg of you in view of all the mercies of God, to make a decisive dedication of your bodies [presenting all your members and faculties] as a living sacrifice, holy and well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable service and spiritual worship.” (Amplified Bible) Decisive Dedication? Reasonable?

Are these scriptures only addressing sexual morality? I don’t think so. If we are presenting all of the body’s members and faculties to service, it matters how we treat our bodies. We live in a culture that supports gluttony. At the same time, our culture supports a huge industry of Diet Programs, exercise equipment, and exercise facilities. (The reason club memberships go on sale with bargain prices is that they know people won’t continue, so they don’t have to be concerned about the gym getting too crowded.) On the other hand, evidence is clear that brisk walks contribute to health significantly. Recent evidence also shows that if you can’t “work out” 30-45 minutes a day, short 15-minute sessions of walking, taking stairs, or some other physical activity do matter and really do contribute to health. We can get products if we want to, but simple and no equipment gets the job done. By the way, have you heard the recent phrase “sitting is the new smoking”? If that is true I am sitting about 2 packs a day. And I truly love watching yoga on T.V. So, I have work to do.

In our culture it common for people to not get enough sleep, to get dehydrated, and to not get their bodies moving enough for health benefits; and this is in spite of bottled water, exercise equipment, sleeping medications, and expensive mattresses. An article I read by a physician stated that more Americans are using more decongestants because of allergies, but she has found that some people get congested at even mild level of dehydration, so decongestants are not always the solution. I am certain that my overall health has improved since I made drinking water a priority. It was hard—I thought Diet Coke and coffee had plenty of water, so what’s the big deal? I experienced that it actually is a big deal.

Perhaps it goes back to Paul’s directions to make a decision to take care of ourselves, that it is reasonable for service to do so. But it doesn’t have to be expensive, complicated, or painful. Neither does it have to be extreme.

We can structure our day to include basic, important health practices: drink water regularly throughout the day; stretch several times a day; move our bodies even for short periods (but longer than it takes to walk to the kitchen); limit sugar intake; consume a reasonable amount of calories per day, with at least a few fruits and vegetables (like V-8 juice?); limit or eliminate junk food; refrain from more than 1-2 servings of alcohol per day, depending on gender and weight, or abstain; get all electronics out of the bedroom and get enough sleep, whatever that is for you; pray for guidance, restraint, discipline about our taking care of our bodies. These are moderate behaviors that can be part of a moderate lifestyle. Health doesn’t mean perfection. As Paul wrote, it does involve “a living sacrifice” that honors God. The point is this: Proactively taking care of our bodies is not important because doctors say we should or magazine articles are written about it, or an industry exists for it. It is about Scripture teaching that this is very important stewardship: It is the stewardship of the temple of the Holy Spirit. Now go get a glass of water! --JM

APRIL 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Easter Day 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship Holy Communion	2	3	4	5 4:00 pm Bible Journaling Class	6	7
8 2 Easter 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship	9 7:00 pm Ugly Quilts	10	11	12 4:00 pm Bible Journaling Class	13	14
15 3 Easter 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship Holy Communion <i>Council meeting 1:00</i>	16 7:00 pm Ugly Quilts	17	18	19 4:00 pm Bible Journaling Class	20	21
22 4 Easter 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship	23 7:00 pm Ugly Quilts	24	25	26 4:00 pm Bible Journaling Class	27	28
29 5 Easter 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship Holy Communion	30 7:00 pm Ugly Quilts					