



JOYFUL NEWS

Joy in Christ Lutheran Church
110 Balboa Road
Hot Springs Village, AR 71909
501-915-9569

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JULIE

As August arrives, we begin to notice the changing rhythm of the seasons. Summer's abundance reminds us of God's faithful provision, while the approaching school year invites us to reflect on how God continues to call us into lives of faith, hope, and service.

In Galatians 6:9, Paul encourages us: "So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up." These words remind us that God is always at work. As Lutherans, we trust that God's grace is a gift freely given through Christ. Nourished by Word and Sacrament, we are sent into the world to love and serve our neighbors.

Our baptismal calling is lived out in everyday moments—offering kindness, welcoming others, caring for those in need, and sharing hope with those who are struggling. God works through ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary things.

As a new school year begins, let us pray for students, teachers, school staff, and families. May God bless them with wisdom, courage, and joy as they embrace new opportunities and challenges. We also remember all who are experiencing transitions or uncertainty, trusting that Christ walks beside them each day.

August is a wonderful time to reconnect with the life of our congregation. Gathering for worship and around the Lord's Table strengthens us for ministry beyond the church walls. Every person has gifts to share, and together we are called to be Christ's hands and feet in the world.

Thank you to everyone who has shared their time, talents, prayers, and generosity throughout the summer. As we enter this new season, may we remain rooted in God's grace, strengthened by the Holy Spirit, and inspired to share Christ's love with all.

"The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced." — Psalm 126:3





Our Fellowship Committee (from left to right - Dick Coulson, Dianne Degner, Gayle Shaner, Laurel Gunderson, Trina Hacker along with Pastor Julie) did an amazing job of making our Red, White and Blue event a huge success. Thanks to all who helped out.



**Youth Group
for the
Young at Heart
Come join us & see
what it's all about
Wednesdays at
5 pm**

**DISCOVER
THE RICHES
OF
GOD'S
GRACE IN...**

EPHESIANS



Join us for an uplifting 11-week journey through the book of Ephesians, where Paul reveals God's eternal purpose, His abundant grace, and His desire to unite His people. As the letter beautifully states, God has reconciled us to Himself and to one another, breaking down every dividing wall.

Beginning September 15, 2026, we will gather each Tuesday from 3:30–5:00 pm for group discussion, supported by daily personal study at home.

We meet at Joy in Christ Lutheran Church, 110 Balboa Road
Hot Springs Village.

Participants may use any Bible. Lessons reference the NIV and the Joy of Living Bible Study Guide Part 1 of 2. Please submit \$19 for the guide to Jerry Fager by August 28, 2026.

For more information, contact:

Jerry Fager -- 210-885-2725 –jdfager@yahoo.com



Happy Birthday

Norm Knoke	August 3		
Ginny Peterson	August 4	Lee Cordes	August 17
Susan Jamison	August 6	Jon Lochhaas	August 21
Joan Schoonover	August 11	Lynda Grasse	August 22
Connor Poynor	August 13	Melanie Pederson	August 22
Warren Taylor	August 13	Norv Nordling	August 24
Richard Peck	August 14	Joan Plautz	August 31

Happy Anniversary

Tom & Lynda Grasse	August 3	(58 yrs)
Gary & Nancy Wilkins	August 8	(61 yrs)
Lance & Eileen Miller	August 22	(62 yrs)
Terry & Karen Sterzik	August 22	(56 yrs)





**Hymn Sing
Sunday
August 16
3:00pm**



**Joy in Christ
110 Balboa**

(See article on Page 5)

Singles Group



Our Singles group enjoyed a tasty dinner at Home Plate on July 9th with 9 attending. The next dinner will be August 13th at Home Plate starting at 5 pm. Please mark your calendar and join us.

In Christ,
Joyce Geraghty



Sometimes, the thing
that is holding you back.....is all in your head.
Meeting with someone
who listens can be helpful.

STEPHEN MINISTRY OF JOY IN CHRIST
* CHRIST CARING FOR PEOPLE
THROUGH PEOPLE *

Contact Pastor Julie or a Stephen Leader







Love Lunches

Joy in Christ will have the opportunity to serve Love Lunches on **Sunday, Aug. 2nd**. We are still in need of one more baker and we have a full crew of workers. Please make sure your donations for this ministry are at the church by 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 2nd so they can be taken to our distribution site. Thank you for all the generous donations you have made for these brothers and sisters in Christ.

Worship & Music

Joy in Christ Hymn Sing Event

Sunday, August 16th at 3:00 p.m.

Do you have a favorite hymn? Maybe many favorite hymns? Does singing them make you remember past times, events? On Sunday afternoon, Aug. 16th, you are invited to join your voices with many to sing some old favorite hymns here at Joy in Christ Lutheran Church. Please invite your friends and neighbors to come as well. There will be light refreshments in the narthex for a time of fellowship starting about 2:30 p.m. The actual hymn singing will begin about 3:00. For each small segment, there will be some chosen hymns and an opportunity for the congregation to suggest another. We will be using our hymnal, so be checking for the page numbers for your favorites to suggest, in case they are not already on the list. Please save the date and come and join in the singing of many of our favorite hymns. See you there!



Fellowship

MAKING and BAKING

The Fellowship Committee is busy with several activities on the calendar and there are many opportunities for our congregation to participate.

If you enjoy baking, we will be asking for baked goods for 2 events - a bake sale during the Trunk Sale on Saturday, October 5 and another one at the Craft Fair at the Village United Methodist Church on Saturday, December 5. We would appreciate help to organize these sales. Money raised will be supporting the mission and ministry of our church. We will also be asking for some desserts to end our picnic lunch (catered by Home Plate) on Sunday, September 27 when we worship at the Cortez pavilion.

Do you have a great idea for a little craft project we could make to sell at the Craft Fair? We would love your participation with this sale which was previously organized by Women of Joy. And yes, we would like to make and sell lefse again.





JOY IN CHRIST TRUNK SALE

Oct. 3rd, 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

Are you ready to pass on your valued treasures and make room for more storage space for new treasures? Now is the time to sell your valuable stuff at the congregational trunk sale. The Joy in Christ Trunk Sale will take place on Saturday, **Oct. 3rd** from 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. Joy in Christ congregation members can begin applying for a parking space to sell their treasures starting **Aug. 1st**. The forms are available in the narthex on the serving counter or online at www.joyinchristsv.org.

Sellers must set up by 8:45 A.M. on the day of the sale and remain until 1:00 P.M. Sellers are responsible for loading, unloading, setting up and removing their treasures on the day of the Sale. They should also bring their own change bag, price their own items, and manage all their own money transactions. This is a church and family event so sale items must be appropriate-no offensive items, CBD products, weapons, etc. Parking spaces for the buyers at our Sale will be limited, so please keep your vehicle at your sale site the entire time of the Sale. Sellers will receive a complete list of guidelines with their application form. Parking spaces will be assigned on a first come first served basis.

In addition, the Trunk Sale will feature:

Joy in Christ Sale: You are invited to donate gently used items to be sold at the Joy In Christ Booth. This will be a special Rummage Sale sponsored by our church to raise additional funds.

Hot Dogs, Water, and Chips will be for sale. The Fellowship Committee sponsors this event.

Bake Sale: We need your delicious homemade cookies, cakes, breads, and other delectable treats to sell at the Bake Sale.

Memorial Garden Tour: The Memorial Garden will be featured with information and tours given.

If you have any questions, please contact the committee: Lynda Grasse, Joan Plautz, Susan Jamison, Beth Mielke, and Karen Sterzik.

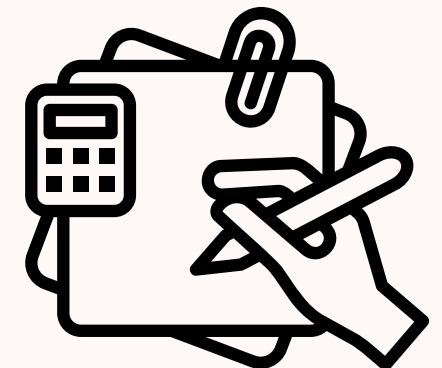




TREASURER'S REPORT FOR JUNE 2026

NOTE: Due to the bookkeeping transition, this report may not be totally accurate since some bill paying and accounting may not be up to date. Future reports for July and beyond should rectify this situation and provide more accurate accounting.

	<u>June Actual</u>	<u>Apr. Budget</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
Income	17,895	22,933	127,896	137,598
Expenses	17,681	22,933	122,841	137,598
Surplus or (Deficit)	214	0	5,055	0
Cash on Hand		534,824		
Liabilities		-6,780		
Dedicated Funds		<u>-396,515</u>		
Operating Capital		131,528		



June 2026 the income exceeded expenses by \$214.00 and expenses were below budget by \$5,252. The operating capital has increased by \$5,054 from the 2025 ending balance.

If you have any questions, please ask.

Ken Poulsen, Treasurer

STEWARDSHIP

WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN



We'll be JOYfully kicking off our annual Stewardship Celebration on the weekend of August 15th and 16th with the theme "We give thee but thine own". Your stewardship packets will be available for pick-up on September 5th and 6th. The Plan-of-Giving card and Time and Talent form will be due back to church by September 19th. "All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee".

Communications Committee



We need your help!

Our website is up and running but it needs updating and minor design changes. Your work will make you happy and our committee happy. Why should you volunteer?

- No meeting to attend but work with the Communications Committee.

- Work at home

- Use your creative skills to help promote our congregation

- Make the Communications Committee happy!!!

Check out our website at www.joyinchristhsv.org and see how our website appears. We are open to suggestions and have a list of ideas that need to be implemented. We use WIX as our web service, which is easy to use, but we are open for other applications. Even if you have not done website design but enjoy computers, this is a chance to learn something new. Please contact Pastor Julie or Lynda Grasse if you have any questions or wish to help.



25th Annual Village Walk for Cancer Research

September 26, 2026

The annual Village Walk for Cancer Research will begin with an opening ceremony at Balboa Pavilion at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 26th. As in the past, the walk will include the Balboa and Hernando Trails, a total of 5 miles, for those who wish to walk the entire distance. Registration fee is \$35 which includes a t-shirt (\$40 after Sept. 4th) as well as free fruit, water, coffee, hot dogs and brats at the Balboa Pavilion on Walk day. There will also be a bake sale, 50/50, Silent Auction, PSA testing, flu shots, and more.

Proceeds from the Walk go to support cancer research and cancer-related projects in our community.

This year they will highlight pancreatic cancer. Walk a few feet or the whole 5 miles and enjoy the fellowship of other walkers. Help raise \$110,000 for cancer research this year.

To register for the 25th Annual Village Walk for Cancer Research, please visit the website: www.WalkForCancerResearch.org or watch the newspaper for locations where registration forms are available. Registration forms will be available at church as well.



Shoe Box Scramble

Well, if we thought summer might back off for our July 12 Shoe Box Scramble, it didn't!! Char Maeda guided the beer cart (has more than just beer!) around and, boy, did we need it!!

We had 2 groups competing for the honor of “Honking the Chicken” and the foursome of John Plautz, Jerry Bernoske, Susan Maser, and Don Gohr were the big winners with a one under par of 35. The team of Adam Edmonson, Dick Coulson, and Joan Plautz finished with a one over par of 37.

Our season is half over with probably only four more months of golf and your opportunity to donate to the cause of shoes and necessary items for the kids at Mountain Pine and Jessievile Schools. Our donations so far are lacking from past years and we really need your support going forward. Our next scramble date is August 9 at 1:00 pm at Isabella G.C. We would sure like to see you there to play or join us for dinner.

Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex!



Recycling at Joy in Christ



We do recycling at Joy in Christ in order to keep items out of the landfill that can be reused. However, we can only take those items that are accepted at the local collection sites. We collect plastics, but be very sure that they have a small triangle with a #1 or #2 on them. Most yogurt, sour cream, cottage cheese, etc. containers are not #1 or #2. Many medicine containers don't qualify either. If you will check before putting things in the recycling bin, it will save us a great deal of time at the recycling center. Recently I took 3 garbage bags of plastic to the recycling center and had to bring one full bag home again because those plastics did not qualify. We also take glass containers without lids, aluminum cans, tin cans, batteries, cardboard, newspaper, and office paper and magazines. Our recycling program can be a good thing for our community and our environment, but we need your help to make it work properly. Thank you.



AUGUST 2026



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2 8:30am Hospitality 9:00 am Worship LOVE LUNCHES	3 12:30pm Mahjong	4 1:00 pm Lake Forest Worship	5 11:00 am Fellowship 5:00 pm Youth Group	6	7	8 4:30pm Hospitality 5:00pm Worship
9 8:30am Hospitality 9:00 am Worship 1pm Golf Scramble	10 12:30pm Mahjong	11 2:00 pm Mt. Carmel Worship	12 11:00 am Jackson House 5:00 pm Youth Group	13 5:00 pm Singles Home Plate	14	15 4:30pm Hospitality 5:00pm Worship
16 8:30am Hospitality 9:00 am Worship 3:00 PM HYMN SING	17 10:00am FOCUS 12:30pm Mahjong	18	19 9:00 am Finance 5:00 pm Youth Group	20 1:00 pm Worship & Music	21 9:00 am Council NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	22 4:30pm Hospitality 5:00pm Worship
23 8:30am Hospitality 9:00 am Worship	24 12:30 pm Mahjong	25 8:00 am Breakfast at Home Plate 9:00 am Hymn Planning	26 5:00 pm Youth Group	27	28	29 4:30pm Hospitality 5:00pm Worship

