

# JOYFUL NEWS

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

## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JULIE

*This is Part 4 in a series examining the words of our new congregational mission statement and exploring how this statement shapes our identity as a community of faith.*

***Joyfully living by grace through faith to worship, love, and serve.***

In Paul's letter to the Philippians, the apostle urges the church to "be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind." Paul isn't suggesting that everyone think the same way. Rather he is hoping those in the church will have the same motivations, the same focus, and the same priorities. He goes on to say, "Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus." In this way, he points to our Lord and asks us to wonder about and identify his motivations, his focus, and his priorities. (Phil 2: 2, 5)

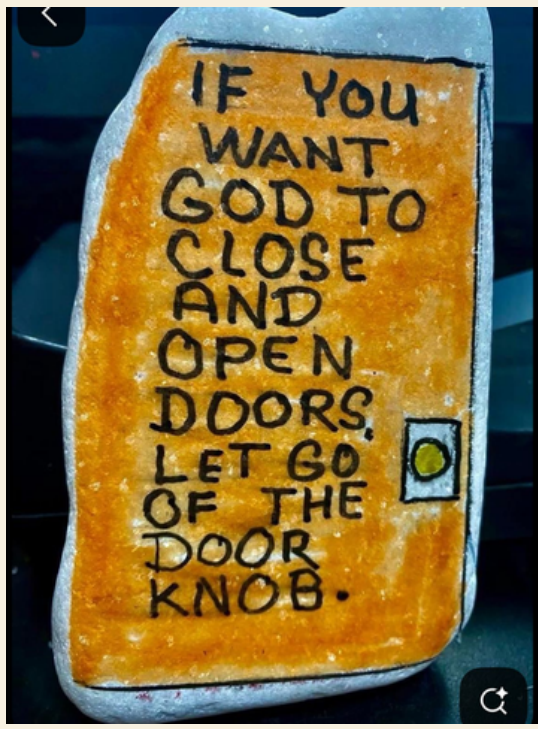
The mission statement of our congregation seeks to unite the group of individuals who claim this as their church with common goals, values, and objectives. The writers of our mission statement considered how we use our time, our talents, and our resources. These things tell a story about what is important to an organization. Our mission statement isn't dictating to us a new identity. Instead, it is articulating to us and to others what we hold closest to our hearts.

What was revealed through the process of composing our new mission statement is that this church – and its two predecessor bodies – has a long history and is committed to abiding in Christ in the following three distinct ways:

- "Worship" Gathering together regularly to hear the word proclaimed and to receive the sacraments is a very high priority. As an assembly, we offer our praise, thanks, and prayers to God.
- "Love" We believe God has called us into this faith community together. It is very important to us that we have opportunities to develop relationships with each other so that we may grow and nurture each other in faith and we may "bear one another's burdens," tending to one another especially in times of need.
- "Serve" We are blessed to be a blessing to others. Jesus washed the feet of his disciples and encouraged us to do likewise. In humble service, we become imitators of Christ and instruments in the dissemination of God's saving love throughout the world.

"To worship, love, and serve," says a lot about who we are as God's people in the world and why we exist as a church in this place and at this time. We do these things in a wide variety of ways, but are also always looking for new expressions of how we can be church together, walking in the ways of Jesus for the sake of the world.

Peace be with you,  
Pastor Julie



Stephen Ministry of  
Joy in Christ  
*"Christ helping people  
through people"*

## Stephen Ministry



Contact Pastor Julie  
or a Stephen Leader  
when you're ready.

### Birthdays

Zachary Wesley	April 2
Barb Mitchell	April 4
Shirley Swanson	April 5
Bruce Mielke	April 9
Peter Mielke	April 14
Lance Miller	April 18
Larry Letchford	April 19
Sheryl Pierce	April 21
Amelia Wesley	April 22
Chuck Hacker	April 23
Joya Hoeft	April 27
Erwin Hoeft	April 29
Carla Olson	April 30

### Anniversaries

Don & Sue Fisher	April 6
Phil & Linda Keller	April 17
Chuck & Trina Hacker	April 25

### CELEBRATE EASTER

Come to the Eggcellent Potluck Easter Brunch on April 5 following our Easter service.

If you can, please contribute a savory dish ( egg casserole, hash brown casserole, quiche, frittata, breakfast meat), a fruit or vegetable dish or salad, or a sweet casserole or baked good ( muffins, sweet bread, kringle, coffee cake, scones, doughnuts or biscuits). Ham is being served and coffee and juice will be available.

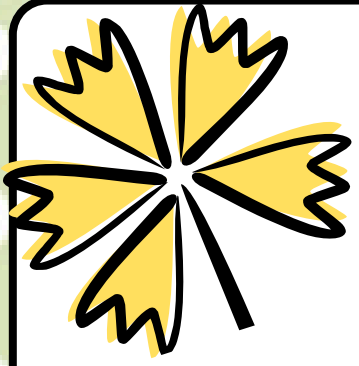
Sign up in the narthex or call Dianne Degner or Gayle Shaner if you can attend.

Together, let us rejoice and be thankful for the hope, renewal and new life that Easter brings.

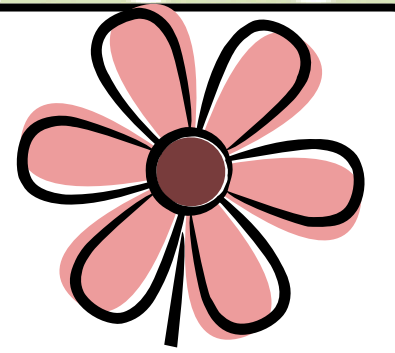


### Food Pantry

For the month of April we are asking for donations of Powdered Milk and Vegetable Oil. Your help in this ministry is very much appreciated!



# Women of Joy



April's Women of Joy meeting is an especially meaningful time to gather. Along with encouragement, fellowship, and spiritual refreshment, this meeting includes an important opportunity to elect new officers for the upcoming year.

Attending allows your voice to be heard as leaders are chosen who will help guide the group's vision, events, and outreach. It's a chance to support those stepping into leadership and to take part in shaping the future of Women of Joy. Please prayerfully consider serving in a leadership role for one (1) year. The open positions include President, Vice-President and Secretary. Sue Fisher has agreed to serve one more year as Treasurer. Please reach out to Melanie, Char, or Dianne to learn more.

We will also finalize our plans for an Oaklawn Behind the Scenes Road trip.

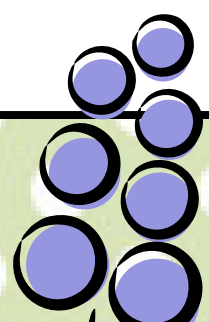
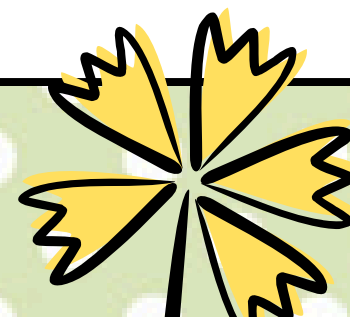
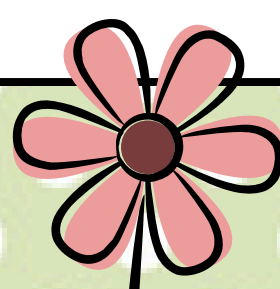
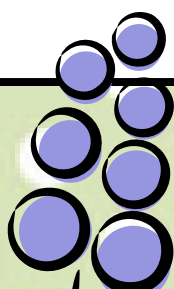
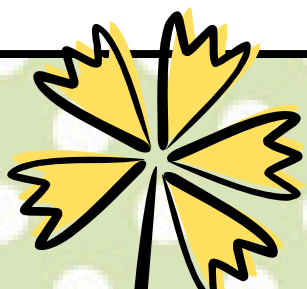
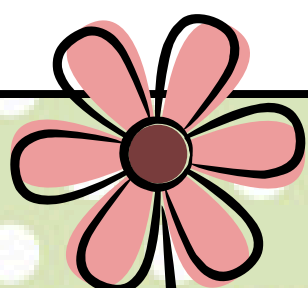
Congratulations to Susan Torpy for winning the raffle drawing. Will you be the April Raffle Winner? You must be present to win.

Mark your calendars:  
Tuesday, April 21st at 9:00 a.m.  
Church Narthex

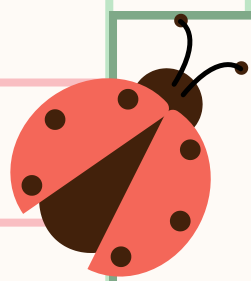
Let's continue nurturing our connections, strengthening our faith, and cherishing the special bond we share as Women of Joy. If you've never been, consider this your invitation—you deserve this time.

In Joy,  
Melanie, Dianne, Char and Sue

## Great day had making pizzas at National Park Community College



# KITCHEN UPDATE



Peter Mielke may look like he's resting but he's actually hard at work painting the new wall in the sanctuary! Good Job Peter!

**Special thanks to Jacob Castleberry for his contributions to this project.**



Our own John Plautz painting the new wall in the kitchen. Cabinets coming soon!! Thanks John!

## Love Lunches on Easter Sunday

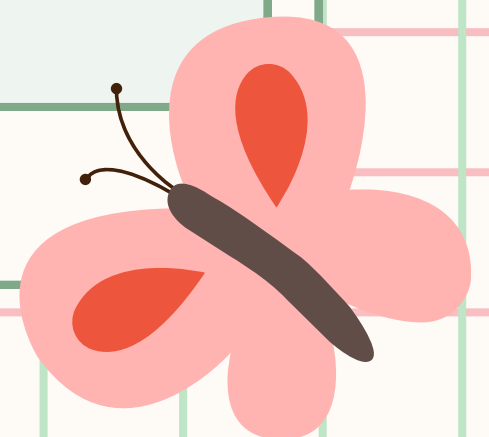
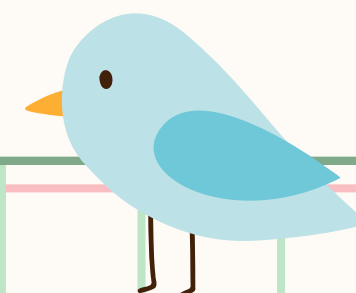
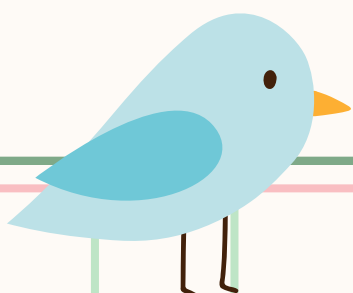
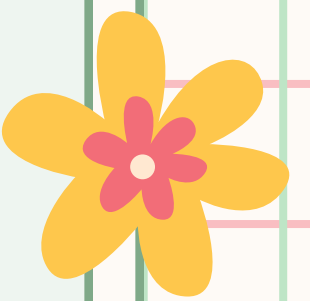
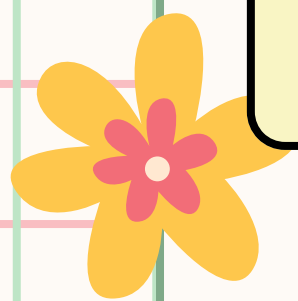
This April, Joy in Christ has the opportunity to share Love Lunches with our hungry friends in Hot Springs on Easter Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>. When we served in March, we had many requests for peanut butter, so we are asking you to please consider donating a SMALL jar of peanut butter for the April day of service. Remember that these folks are for the most part walking, so big jars of peanut butter get too heavy. Spring is coming, so light weight clothing is also a great donation for this Love Lunches. As usual, we need 4 bakers willing to make 4 dozen cookies each for our lunches that day. If you are willing and able to make cookies for the April 5<sup>th</sup> Love Lunches, please let Karen Sterzik know ASAP. Thank you. If you would like to be a part of the crew that day, please let Karen know that as well.

Thank you all for the generosity you have shown this ministry in the past. Your gifts are greatly appreciated.



## Flowers For Easter

We would like to decorate the church with lots of spring blooming flowers, including lilies, for Easter this year. Please consider sharing a potted plant or two for the Easter Sunday service. You can bring your plants to the church just before Easter and leave them in the kitchen. Please put your name on the bottom of your plants and pick them up to take home after the Sunday service. Thank you for your help in making our Easter service beautiful.



# Member Spotlight

## All about Mr. Jack Potash

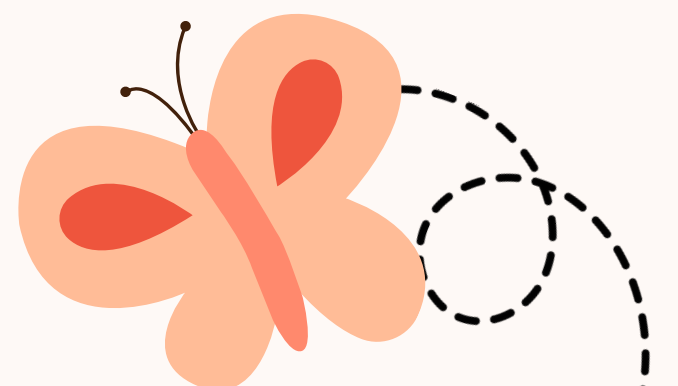
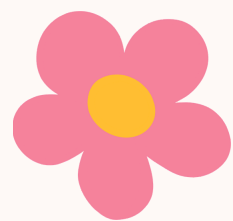
Jack Potash, an army vet, joined CLC as one of its early members and is listed among the original property owners in Hot Springs Village. It was his wife, Mary Louise, who chose CLC. The couple purchased land in HSV the year the Village opened and eventually moved here from Cleveland, Ohio. Mary Louise passed on February 9, 2021.

Jack's parents were of Czech and German heritage. Before moving to the Village, Jack worked as a truck driver, while Mary Louise worked as an inspector of medical equipment, including X-ray and MRI machines.

Dancing was one of their great passions—especially ballroom dancing. They became so skilled that they won a gold medal from the Murray Dance Studio. Many of their dances were performed at the Woodlands.

Today, you'll still find "Uncle Jack" most mornings at Home Plate, where he meets friends for breakfast. He also faithfully attends the 9:00 a.m. Sunday service at Joy in Christ—very likely right before going to breakfast at Home Plate!





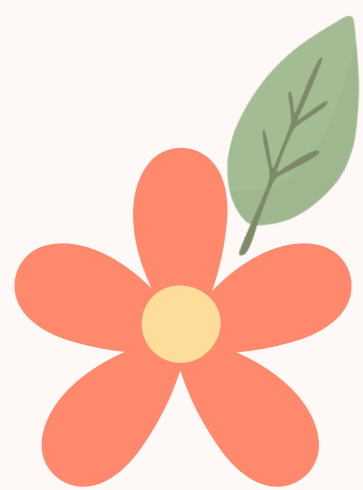
## Thank you!

Thank you to everyone that contributed soup, bread or crackers for the Soup Suppers. We had a wonderful variety of great soups. We also want to thank everyone that helped with the clean-up. We appreciated you so much.  
The Fellowship Committee



## Reminder

The opportunity to donate flowers to the weekend service is now back in full swing. Please sign up in the folder in the narthex.  
Thank you!



## Have you seen me yet?



## How about me...



...look above the piano in the sanctuary!



**TREASURER'S REPORT FOR FEBRUART 2026**



	Feb. Actual	Feb. Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Income	25,906	22,933	54,522	45,866
Expenses	23,476	22,933	45,544	45,866
Surplus or (Deficit)	2,430	0	8,978	0
Cash on hand	536,574			
Liabilities	-6,978			
Dedicated Funds	<u>-394,837</u>			
Operating Capital	135,591			

February 2026 income exceeded expenses by \$2,430 and expenses were over budget by \$543. The operating capital has increased by \$9,711 over the 2025 ending balance.

If you have any questions please ask. I'm still learning so if I don't know the answer to your question, I'll try to find it.

Ken Poulsen, Treasurer



# Holy Week at Joy in Christ

## Maundy Thursday 4/02/26

Worship 5:00pm

Car Wash 1:00pm-3:00pm

## Good Friday 4/03/26

Worship 5:00pm

## Easter Vigil 4/04/26

Worship 5:00pm

## Easter Sunday 4/05/26

Worship 9:00am

Brunch 10:00am



**Walk the prayer labyrinth**

Instructions Available in the Narthex

# Car Wash

**SUPER  
CLEAN**

**FREE!**



**THURSDAY  
APRIL 2  
1:00PM -  
3:00PM**

**JESUS WASHED FEET  
WE WASH CARS**

**VOLUNTEERS SIGN UP  
IN NARTHEX**

**JOY IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
110 BALBOA RD  
HOT SPRINGS VILLAGE, AR**






2026

# APRIL 04

MONTHLY PLANNER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			<b>1</b> 11am Fellowship  5:00 pm Worship at Holy Trinity	<b>2</b> 1pm Car Wash  MAUNDY Thursday 5:00 pm Worship	<b>3</b> GOOD Friday  5:00 pm Worship	<b>4</b> 4:30pm Hospitality 5:00pm Worship
<b>5</b>  8:30am Hospitality 9:00am Worship Easter Brunch  LOVE LUNCHES	<b>6</b> 12:30 Mahjong	<b>7</b> 9:30am Communications  1:00 pm Lake Forest Worship	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 9:30 WRD	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 4:30pm Hospitality 5:00pm Service of the Word
<b>12</b> 8:30am Hospitality 9:00am Service of the Word  GOLF SCRAMBLE	<b>13</b> 12:30 Mahjong	<b>14</b> 1:30 pm Mt. Carmel Worship  3:00 pm Parables of Jesus Bible Class	<b>15</b> 9 Finance	<b>16</b> 9:30 WRD	<b>17</b> 9am Council  10am Strategy	<b>18</b> 4:30pm Hospitality 5:00pm Worship
<b>19</b> 8:30am Hospitality 9:00am Worship	<b>20</b> 10:00 am Focus  12:30 Mahjong  1:00 pm Stephen Ministry	<b>21</b> 9:00 am Women of Joy  3:00 pm Parables of Jesus Bible Class	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 9:30 WRD	<b>24</b> NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	<b>25</b> 4:30pm Hospitality 5:00pm Worship
<b>26</b> 8:30am Hospitality 9:00am Worship	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 8am Debra's Breakfast	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 9:30 WRD		

