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## Wakeup Calls & Holy Urgency

Over the next month we are celebrating two of my favorite church holidays- Reformation Sunday and All Saints Day. In a sense, both of these are celebrations of those who live life with a sense of urgency - like reformers, who were unwilling to wait forever to see the church better reflect Jesus; and departed loved ones, who are so beloved exactly because they found ways to give back and make the most of the time they were given.

I recently read the fascinating story of the origins of the Nobel Prize. In the late 1800's, the Swedish founder of this award, Alfred Nobel, woke up to discover his own obituary in the local newspaper. (Apparently, they had mistaken his brother's death for his own!) What he noticed upon reading it was that, although there was nothing necessarily shameful in the way he was remembered, (he had been a very successful businessman), in his mind there was also nothing particularly admirable in it. This experience served as a huge wakeup call for Alfred and filled him with a deep sense of urgency to make sure he spent the rest of his life doing more to help others. And this is what inspired him to create the Nobel Prize, an honor that is meant to award this very thing- those whose "discoveries most benefit humankind."



Continued on page ???

## All Saints Sunday November 5th

See page 3



**Daylight Savings Time ENDS**  
**Sunday, November 5th**  
(remember to set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night!)

## People Page

# November Birthdays

- 2nd: Debbie Brem
- 19th: Julie Laybourne
- 20th: Brad Brauer
- 23rd: Lorelei Leeper
- 24th: Bill Kostel
- 30th: Scott Thomas

### Wedding Anniversaries in November



- 21st: Manuel & Deborah Williams (33 yrs)
- 24th: John & Hannelore Brown (56 yrs)
- 27th: David & Tracy Lizon (42 yrs)



**This past month we prayed for:**

- Donna Doles
- Dick & Peg Tool
- Connie White (Stephanie's mom)
- Joan Bouty, Louise Scott
- Warren Sullivan
- Steve Gamrath
- Paul & Jackie Anderson
- Norma Gruber
- Nance Crow
- Bill & Jean Potabi
- Maggie Szyrkowska (10/1)
- Andrew & Danielle Saunders (10/2)
- Baby Zane (10/9)
- Dennis & Kris Simpson (10/16)
- Josh Welbaum & family (10/16)
- Charlotte Griffith (10/16)
- Judy Huckleby (10/16)
- Charlotte Griffith (10/16)
- Paul Blott (10/20)
- Debbie Hutton (10/24)

If you know of a person or a situation that you would like included in our prayer list, please email them to Earlene ([earlene@communityofjoy.com](mailto:earlene@communityofjoy.com)).

### COMMUNITY OF JOY

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Phone: 505-896-2543

[www.communityofjoy.com](http://www.communityofjoy.com)

**Pastor:**

**Pr. Paul Schick**

[pastorpaul@communityofjoy.com](mailto:pastorpaul@communityofjoy.com)

**Church Administrator:**

**Earlene Shroyer** [earlene@communityofjoy.com](mailto:earlene@communityofjoy.com)

**Worship Leader:**

**Jon Shodean** [jon@communityofjoy.com](mailto:jon@communityofjoy.com)

**Treasurer:** Dick Tool, Greg Quintana

**Bookkeeper:** Earlene Shroyer

**Proofreader:** Jean Potabi

#### Congregation Council

- Lee Glauvitz—President
- Karen Lenoski—Secretary
- Sandy Edwards
- Bill Kostel
- Diane Parham

#### Ministries Leads

- ✦ **Altar Guild:** Debbie Sciortino
- ✦ **Confirmation:** Pr. Paul Schick
- ✦ **F.E.A.S.T.:** Deborah Williams
- ✦ **Fellowship:** Neal Shotwell
- ✦ **Joyful Hearts Women's Ministry:**  
Sandy Edwards
- ✦ **Memorial Committee:** Bill Potabi
- ✦ **Sunday School:** Shaila Shodean
- ✦ **Tech Ministry Leader:** Kristen Sillence
- ✦ **Beer Buddies:** Tony Sciortino

*For any reports or information, contact the appropriate person listed above*

### Together in Mission

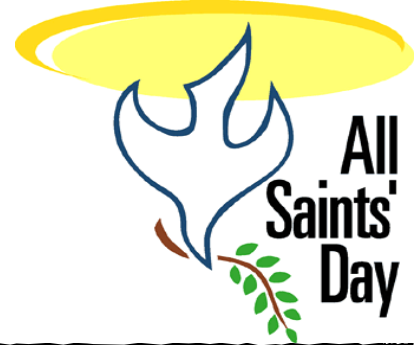
- Camino de Vida—Albuquerque
- Iglesia Cristo Rey—El Paso, TX

## Announcements

# All Saints' Sunday

During worship service on **Sunday, November 5th** we will remember by name members and friends of COJ as well as loved ones who have passed on during the last year.

Please provide Earlene with the name(s) of a loved one to be read and remembered during this special worship service.



### November FEAST

Date: November 8th (6-7:30 pm)

**Potluck: Fast Food Faire (bring some Fast Food to share and not just pizza!**  
(begins at 6 pm)

**Activity: Game Night- bring a board game to play!**

### Men Alive!

**Men Alive!** will be meeting on the second Saturday in (**November 11th**) at 8:30a.m. We will be studying Chapter 16 of Matthew. As is our custom, we will start with a hearty breakfast and lively discussions.

Please contact Charles Fiedler at [cwfiedler@gmail.com](mailto:cwfiedler@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Community of Joy  
Beer Buddies



The Next Meeting -  
Thursday,  
November 16, 2023  
at 6:00 p.m.

**Hanging of the Greens**  
**Sunday, November 26th 2022**

## Announcements

### Annual Congregation Meeting and LUNCH Sunday, November 19, 2023 following the worship service



On this day, following the worship service, we invite you to attend our fall Annual Congregation Meeting, and **afterwards** also enjoy a delicious lunch.

During this meeting we will:

- Vote in new leadership
- Hear stories from our ministries

### 2024 Congregation Council Nominees



**Diane Harmon**

My name is Diane Harmon, I am a retired Department of the Army Civilian who spent my career in Human Resources. My husband Mike had retired from Active Duty and passed away from cancer about 18 months ago. We were both originally from Fergus Falls, Minnesota and have two children and two grandchildren.

Originally from Wichita KS, my husband Terry and I moved to Rio Rancho four years ago in order to spend our retirement in this beautiful place. My entire career was in the aircraft manufacturing industry in Wichita, first at Beech Aircraft and later at Bombardier Learjet. The most enjoyable and rewarding times in my career were spent working closely with people, as a small/minority business advocate, an ethics investigator and trainer, and human resources specialist. Terry and I have three children, four grandchildren and one great-grandchild, all living in Kansas. My hobbies include cardmaking, scrapbooking, reading, and walking our sweet rescue dog Taz. I joined Community of Joy in early 2019, right when the Covid shutdowns began. When in-person worship resumed, I joined Joyful Hearts, where I am currently serving as vice-president. I'm so happy I discovered Community of Joy because the wonderful members are my New Mexico family!



**Barbara Reeves**

**Are You Interested in Joining Community of Joy Church?  
Let Pr. Paul or the Office Know!**



## Worship News



### Fall Adult Ed Series – *The Chosen* – Sundays after Worship, around 11:15 AM

This fall, our Sunday Adult Education will be based around a series called *The Chosen*, which tells the story of Jesus’ life and explores the history and culture that shaped it. Each week we will watch a segment of an episode, followed by a discussion. Join us after worship for this wonderful opportunity for learning and spiritual growth!

If you are at any point interested in watching more episodes of *The Chosen*, the makers of this series have made it free to watch with many different streaming platforms including Netflix, Amazon Prime, Roku, and Peacock. Contact pastor if you would like help in accessing these episodes.

Our worship space has been recently blessed with a beautiful new altar cloth.

A huge thanks to **Debbie Sciortino** for sewing the cloth,  
and to **Diane Brauer** for the beautiful embroidery work!

## THANK YOU TO OUR OCTOBER VOLUNTEERS!

**Ushers:**

Dennis & Kris Simpson, Lee & Jill Glauvitz, Pat Shodean, Meghan Lyman

**Readers:**

Karen Lenoski, Jake Maser, Ron Bencke, Greg Edwards, Lori Brown

**Communion Assistants:**

Pat Shodean, Melissa Eckelbarger, Diane Brauer, Josh Welbaum, Dennis & Kris Simpson

**Altar Guild:**

Diane Brauer, Kris Simpson, Deb Sciortino, Sandy Edwards

**Communion Bread Baker:**

Michelle Bennett

**Audio/Video Team:**

Diane Brauer, Sandy Edwards, Zach Shotwell

**Nursery Attendants:**

Michaela Lovell, Olivia Rousselle

**Counters:**

Pat Shodean, Greg Edwards

## SERMON ON THE AMOUNTS

### Giving for Year through September 30, 2023

Giving	Actual	Budget	more/(less) than Budget
Programs:	\$144,022.00	\$153,150.00	(\$9,128.00)
Building:	\$38,968.00	\$40,050.00	(\$1,082.00)
Both Funds:	\$182,990.00	\$193,200.00	(\$10,210.00)

*Thank you for your faithful financial stewardship.*

## Joyful Hearts Women's Ministry



**Joyful Hearts will meet on Saturday,  
November 11th at 10:00am**

### Joyful Hearts News

The Church-wide Rummage in September was very successful! The sale brought in over \$4,100 for Community of Joy. Joyful Hearts will be giving the Memorial Fund Committee \$4,000 to help with large projects in the future.

Not only did the church benefit from the money we collected, but other organizations in the area benefited as well from items that weren't sold. Children's clothing went to the **Kids Clothes Closet** at **Storehouse West**; jackets and blankets went to **Grace United Methodist Church** in Albuquerque for the homeless; housewares and children's books went to **Lutheran Family Services**; other items were collected for **Albuquerque Health Care for the Homeless**. All of the remaining adult books were taken to **The Friend Shop**, a used



bookstore in Rio Rancho benefiting libraries and literacy programs. Everything else that remained was loaded into a huge trailer belonging to David and Tracy Lizon. Then all items were taken to Savers in Albuquerque.



In December, Joyful Hearts will hold a short meeting on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, and then have a Christmas cookie exchange. This cookie exchange is for all COJ members. We ask that you bring 3 dozen cookies, you take 2 dozen home, and that leaves one dozen each to freeze for Christmas Eve refreshments.

**Join Us for Worship in the Sanctuary,  
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.**

## Joyful Hearts Women's Ministry



## Fleece Navidad



The Joann's app is helpful to watch for sales and coupons. The production date is Saturday, November 18th at 9 am. Save this date on your calendar, and come out and join us! Many hands make light work!

## Joyful Hearts collects toiletries for Albuquerque HealthCare for the Homeless

Joyful Hearts collects toiletries for *Albuquerque HealthCare for the Homeless* year round. We have a Collection Bin in the Fellowship Room for your donations. The homeless population is growing and there is always a great need for these items. If you travel, save the hotel \*travel size toiletries. They can also be purchased at any store that has a \*travel size section in their pharmacy area. Below is a list of needed items. You can go to <https://www.abqhch.org> to learn more about this worthwhile organization. Thank you for your anticipated generosity.



- ◇ Shaving supplies
- ◇ Deodorants (male and female)
- ◇ Lip balm
- ◇ Sunscreen
- ◇ Travel size tissues
- ◇ Toothbrushes/toothpaste
- ◇ Band-Aids

\*We package these items into hygiene kits and the small size is needed to fit into the gallon Ziplock bag.  
**No mouthwash please.**

If you have any questions, please contact Debbie at: [dsciortino.rr@gmail.com](mailto:dsciortino.rr@gmail.com)

**Final Sunday School for 2023  
November 26th**



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## Pastor's Ponderings

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### Wakeup Calls & Holy Urgency

Continued from page 1

What is the proper sense of urgency in life and faith? Admittedly, it is certainly possible to take a sense of urgency too far, particularly if it leads us to a place of negativity and fear. I've certainly met those who are stuck in a mindset in which they can never measure up or do enough- and that's not exactly healthy. And to this mindset, it's worth remembering that God's grace abounds and there's always tomorrow.

On the other hand, Jesus often spoke of the importance of living with urgency. He loved telling his hearers to wake up! Because unless we wake up to the urgency of living spiritually meaningful lives, we may someday discover that we have wasted the precious time God has given us. Indeed, although we say- *There is always tomorrow!* - there will come a day when actually there will not be a tomorrow. And who knows when that day will be! Life in this world is finite and that's part of what makes it so precious.

Now again, living with Holy Urgency is not about holding unrealistic demands for perfection in ourselves or the world. The fact of matter is, we are still part saint and part sinner, and heaven and earth aren't yet the same thing. Holy patience and holy urgency aren't enemies.

But it is about not falling asleep to a deeper purpose in God. And it is about not allowing the many demands of life to steal our ability to focus on what is truly important. As Jesus put it, *Seek first God's kingdom and his righteousness, and all the other things will be given to you as well.*

Each day, Christ invites us to ask ourselves: *How would my life look different if I was seeking God's kingdom first and living with a sense of holy urgency?* And once you have a good answer to this question, you can also ask yourself- *What's stopping me?* Oftentimes, very little, other than our willingness to wake up. And so may each of us wake up to the preciousness of life and the Holy Urgency with which we're called to live.

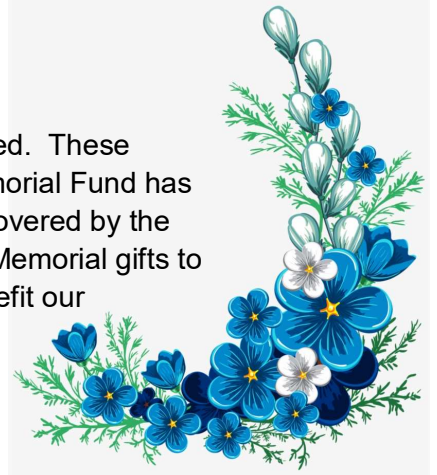
Yours in Christ, Pastor Paul

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## COJ Memorial Fund

At a recent Memorial Committee meeting, a number of projects were discussed. These will be proposed to the council for their consideration and approval. The Memorial Fund has helped fund several improvements that needed to be made, but couldn't be covered by the church budget. The automatic doors are a recent example. In this way, your Memorial gifts to honor or remember people who are or have been special to you go on to benefit our Community of Joy.

If you have any concerns or proposals, you can contact one of the committee members: **Bill Potabi**, **Pat Shodean**, **Kristen Sillence**, **Sandy Edwards** (council liaison) or **Earlene Shroyer**.



We recently received gifts to the COJ Memorial Fund in memory of **Charles and Suzanne Davis**.

We thank **Tom & Liz Ball**, **John & Renee Mitsunaga**, and **Richard & Donna Huxtable** for their generous and gracious gifts to our Memorial

**Thank you to all who have contributed to COJ's Memorial Fund which made the purchase of our new Automatic Doors possible!**



## Beyond Our Walls



**Storehouse West** is a food pantry and children's clothes closet that serves individuals and families who are residents of Sandoval County, New Mexico and meet the federal income guidelines for low-moderate income households. **Storehouse West** can supply registered households with an

emergency food package once a month and can assist with water and Waste Management bills once per year

### **FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

**Storehouse West** distributed more than 5,000 food packages in 2022, equaling almost 210,000 pounds of food. Community donations are an important part of our supply chain. This month the pantry has a short, but essential list that we need for our monthly food distributions.

### **PANTRY WISH LIST**

- PEANUT BUTTER**
- BREAKFAST CEREAL**
- CANNED FRUIT**
- RAMEN NOODLES**

*We are doing great with our drive-thru donations for Storehouse West. If you would like to donate, simply swing by the outside church entrance and drop off your **non-perishable** food donations in the cart.*

Monetary donations for on-going needs can also be made by check to **Storehouse West** and mailed to:  
**Storehouse West, 1030 F. Veranda Dr. SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124**



*The **Storehouse West Kids Clothes Closet** would appreciate donations of children's coats. These could be left with the food donations.*

## Storehouse West Holiday Needs

**Storehouse West** continues to add new clients and that makes Community of Joy's contributions very much appreciated. Many food items come to Storehouse through government supplies at reduced prices, but we are not always able to receive what we have ordered. Some have to be bought on the open market. That is why the church newsletter regularly provides a list of needs with some shortages particularly acute at different times.

**In addition to a monthly food pickup, each family is provided with supplies for a Thanksgiving and a Christmas dinner. A good portion of this has been already set aside, but there is still a need for the following:**

- crispy fried onions – 6 oz. box/bag
- yams – 15 oz cans
- mashed potato flakes – 8 oz. pouches
- gravy mix -.87 oz envelopes/NO glass jars (they may break in packing)  
**NOVEMBER food is needed before NOVEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup>**
- stuffing mix for DECEMBER – 6 oz. box
- cranberry sauce for DECEMBER – 14 oz. cans  
**DECEMBER food is needed before NOVEMBER 30<sup>th</sup>**

***Thank you for your continued support!***



# Our Church



*Thank you Sandy Edwards and Joyful Hearts for all you do!*



*Welcome our newest member, Michael Froseth*



*Surgite Dance Company*



*Pastor Appreciation Sunday*

