




**JOY REIGNS**  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

MAY 19, 2017 – MAY 26, 2017  
THIS WEEK'S LESSON: JOHN 14:15-21

WE EXIST THAT ALL MAY KNOW JESUS CHRIST AND BECOME HIS FULLY DEVOTED FOLLOWERS.

## A Message from Pastor Sara

Do you remember the old song with the refrain, "they will know we are Christians by our love?"

The gospel reading for Sunday is John 14, also known as the farewell discourse (the final things that Jesus is saying to the disciples at the Last Supper). In this reading Jesus talks to the disciples about loving God and loving each other through the power of the Holy Spirit.

This week we will also talk about love. Loving each other. Loving God. And most importantly, with the power of the Holy Spirit working uniquely within each of us, how the world will know us by our love.

God's Peace,  
*Pastor Sara*

### 90 DAY BIBLE CHALLENGE TO START JUNE 11TH

Ever wanted to read the whole bible from start to finish but just can't seem to do it? You can do it reading 12 pages a day. Really! So, join others on this bible reading (or listening) challenge to grow as a fully devoted follower of Jesus. Weekly discussion groups with support and accountability are being finalized now. If interested please contact Pastor Sara at [sarayotter@gmail.com](mailto:sarayotter@gmail.com).

### TAX DAY TITHE CHALLENGE TO HELP WITH BUDGET DEFICIT

During this tax season, some were rejoicing because of a nice return from Uncle Sam. If that was your household, would you be willing to tithe (share 10%) of that return with Joy Reigns? Tithing is a spiritual practice used in the church as a benchmark for centuries. It is one of the ways to express being a fully devoted follower of Jesus. Didn't get a return but would still like to help with the budget deficit? Great! Any amount to help fill the almost \$12,000 anticipated gap would be greatly appreciated. Please mark "taxday" on your gift.

### CONTACT US

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410-266-5691

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[www.joyreignslutheranchurch.org](http://www.joyreignslutheranchurch.org)

### PRAISE WORSHIP

Every Sunday @ 9:30 am

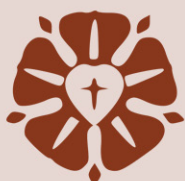
### EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

All Ages welcome in the  
Worship Space at 10:45 a.m.  
most Sundays.

Small Groups ongoing.

### THRIFT SHOP

Open Mondays and Saturdays  
9 a.m. – 12 p.m.



REFORMATION  
500

## REFORMATION FACTS

DID YOU KNOW...Lutheran churches have studied the 16th-century confessions and accepted them as their own in different ways. Some have accepted only the Small Catechism and the Augsburg Confession. American Lutherans couldn't read an English translation until 1846. Translation efforts continue today for students around the globe, making Lutheran theological work possible in other languages.

Throughout 2017 we will present various facts about the Protestant Reformation begun by Martin Luther in 1517 in celebration for the upcoming 500th Anniversary!

## LEAD PROGRESS

Joy Reigns is participating in the LEAD (Living Every Day as Disciples) Tune in Process calling people of faith into the neighborhood and world. It is a ten step process.

WE ARE CURRENTLY ON STEP 6:  
LISTENING TO GOD IN  
THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Please talk to the LEAD team members or learn more about the process at [waytolead.org](http://waytolead.org).

# CARING FOR HEALTH: OUR SHARED ENDEAVOR BY BISHOP BILL GOHL

"But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him."

~ Luke 10:33-34

This is an excerpt from a letter from Bishop Bill Gohl of the Delaware-Maryland Synod regarding the recent decision to repeal and replace the ACA.

"In the last week, the United States House of Representatives passed legislation that would begin the process of repealing and replacing the Affordable Care Act. The firestorm that has ensued, on both sides of the political divide, brings into relief the challenges of our health care system and reveals the deficiencies in both the Affordable Care Act as well as its

proposed replacement. In response to the ongoing conversation, Bishop Gohl issued this statement which is excerpted from our ELCA social statement on health, healing, and health care, Caring for Health: Our Shared Endeavor, as amended and adopted 935 - 34 as a social statement of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America by the eighth Church-wide Assembly on August 15, 2003, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin."

To read the letter in its entirety, visit <http://demdblog.weebly.com/blog/caring-for-health-our-shared-endeavor>.

## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

### GRADUATE RECOGNITION ON JUNE 11TH

Do you have a graduate that you would like to be recognized at Joy Reigns during worship on June 11? If so, please contact Sonya in the office at [officejrc@gmail.com](mailto:officejrc@gmail.com) by June 4th.

### PARTNER NEEDED FOR JESSICA WOODS AT JOY THRIFT

Jessica Woods is in need of a sighted person to assist her at Joy Thrift. Jessica deeply enjoys working at Joy Thrift but can only volunteer when there is a companion to work along side of her. This work is a source of great joy for Jessica and also a time of respite for the caregivers in her family. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please talk with Michelle Poole, Pastor Sara or Yvette Woods.

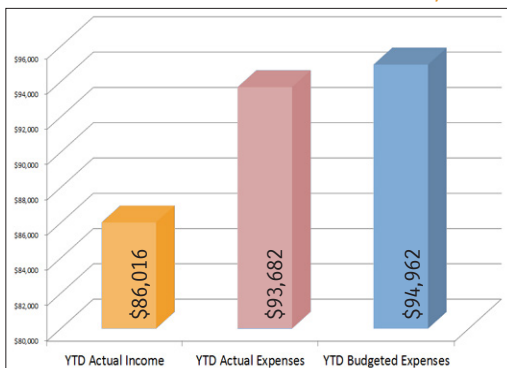
### SCRIP STILL AVAILABLE FOR YOUR EVERYDAY NEEDS

The holidays are over, and while special gifts have been bought, gas, groceries and other everyday purchases still have to be made. Check out the Scrip gift card table to see what's available or to place an order. **PLUS** we are now accepting credit cards for payment!

### Prayers

Prayers for the Rocha family and their health concerns for Ursula's mother. Prayers of sympathy for the Roxanne Latoria family on the death of her mother. Prayers of healing for Burt Teague following surgery. Prayers for those dealing with addictions. Prayers for those affected by violence both here and abroad.

### JOY REIGNS BUDGET AS OF MAY 15, 2017



**JOY REIGNS** is an ELCA church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. For us, this faith comes through the good news of Jesus Christ and gives us the freedom and the courage to wonder, discover and boldly participate in what God is up to in the world. Liberated by our faith, we embrace everyone as a whole person—questions, complexities and all.



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

### FAITH5

May 19th – May 26th

FRIDAY – Matthew 14:17-18

SATURDAY – Psalm 118:24

SUNDAY – 1 Kings 3:5,9

MONDAY – Romans 12:2

TUESDAY – 1 Thessalonians 5:15

WEDNESDAY – John 17:3

THURSDAY – Acts 9:13,15

FRIDAY – Job 9:8-9

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT FAITH5? VISIT [WWW.FAITH5.ORG](http://WWW.FAITH5.ORG).

IF YOU'D LIKE A PRAYER ADDED TO THIS LIST PLEASE  
EMAIL [INFO@JOYREIGNSLUTHERANCHURCH.ORG](mailto:INFO@JOYREIGNSLUTHERANCHURCH.ORG).